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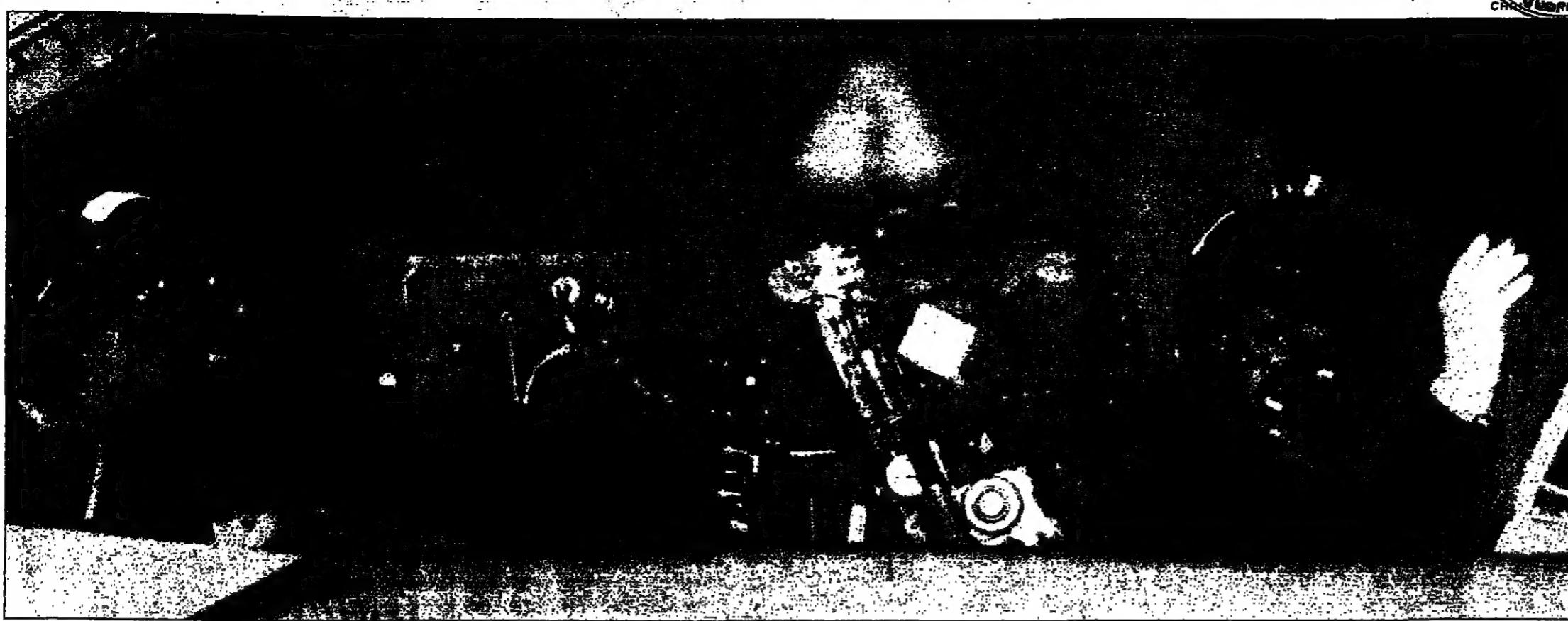
THE TIMES

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45p



Up and away: the crew of one of the Tornados bidding farewell as they left RAF Marham before dawn yesterday for reconnaissance over the exclusion zone in southern Iraq



Read The Times tomorrow for Britain's top schools, with an A-level league table for 250 of them

LEAVING HOME



Bank holiday escape kit for the travel pack. Attractions, black spots, weather, the journey home

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CHALLENGE AT HOME



Armchair holiday stay-at-homes should try winning a £50 prize by tackling the Times jumbo crossword tomorrow

Owen named as EC peace negotiator

Warring factions strike Bosnia deal

BY TIM JUDAH AND MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THE international effort to bring peace to the former Yugoslav achieved a breakthrough yesterday when the warring parties in Bosnia-Herzegovina agreed to guarantee the republic's international frontiers and ban military intervention by Serb and Croat forces.

The document, issued at the London peace conference, also promised a full and permanent end to the fighting, an end to ethnic cleansing and guarantees of rights for all minorities. Refugees would be given the chance to return home or to receive compensation for their losses.

The agreement opens the way for a new peace-keeping force for Bosnia, the control of military movements, the setting up of refugee and relief centres and an extension of humanitarian relief to all areas where necessary.

The European Community also accepted the nomination of Lord Owen as Lord Carrington's successor at the head of its peace effort. France voiced initial objections because of Lord Owen's remarks on the need for air strikes, but Roland Dumas, the foreign minister, said France had accepted that the former Labour foreign secretary was an experienced and

able statesman. Lord Owen will take up his appointment immediately, and will be based in Geneva.

The statement on Bosnia, one of the two main focuses of discussion during the two-day meeting, had the specific endorsement of Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader. He attached to the document a letter pledging the unilateral gathering of Serb heavy weaponry around Sarajevo and three other besieged towns and its transfer to UN supervision within seven days. The letter added: "The Bosnian Serb side would expect the Bosnian government to take reciprocal action." He also undertook not to initiate fire from any heavy weaponry.

The undertaking, a key demand of President Izetbegovic's government was given at a meeting with Douglas Hogg, the junior Foreign Office minister. The Bosnian Serbs also promised to withdraw from "a substantial portion of the territory now under their control". Bosnian delegates said that Dr Karadzic's undertakings were better than they had expected, but were still not optimistic about peace but Hajrudin Somun, a senior adviser to President Izetbegovic said: "We'll believe it when we see

action. I'm afraid we'll be bitter experiences in the past. They often shell harder when they agree to such things." President Izetbegovic himself would only venture "so and so" when asked for his reaction. But another senior member of the delegation complained that the Bosnian delegation had been forced to talk at gunpoint.

Another key achievement yesterday was the agreement by all parties to international monitoring of the Bosnian-Serb frontier. That is certain to mean that pressure will be put on the Croats to agree to the same terms.

The Bosnian agreement took many by surprise. "I was pretty pessimistic when I arrived," Adrian Nastase, the Ro-

manian Foreign Minister, said, "but I am far more optimistic now." He hoped UN and EC observers would go to Romania to control the Danube and so end speculation about Romanian sanctions busting.

All conference participants, including all the former Yugoslav republics, condemned the violence between the three national communities and the attempt to gain territory by force. They rejected as "inhuman and illegal" the expulsion of civilians from their homes to alter the ethnic character of any area and they welcomed the UN Security Council resolution authorising all necessary means to deliver humanitarian relief and the UN investigation of human rights.

They undertake to collate substantiated information on violations of international humanitarian law and to make this information available to the United Nations, the statement said. "They reaffirm that persons who commit or order the commission of grave breaches of the Geneva conventions are individually responsible."

Agreement on a lasting

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Cultural genocide, page 12
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Owen: "experienced and able statesman"

Pound and shares up

BY GEORGE SIVELL

SHARES recovered yesterday thanks to a slightly healthier pound, receding fears of a base rate increase, and an overnight improvement in Tokyo. By the close the FTSE index had risen back above the 2,300 mark to 2311.6, up 26.6 on the day.

The mood was restrained, however, by this week's polls indicating a close result in September's French referendum on the Maastricht treaty. Sterling had a calmer day although the pound slipped 0.4 pfenning against the mark to close at DM2.7930. On the money markets rates

Pretoria purges police

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

IN an attempt to restore public faith in the South African police force, 13 generals are to be retired and for the first time some may be replaced by black officers.

Hermin Kriel, the minister of law and order, said in Pretoria that the result of a training course for police officers of brigadier rank would be known by mid-October and he was confident that a "number of people of colour" would qualify to become generals.

He also hinted that there might be a purge throughout its ranks to rid the force of in-

General dismissed, page 9

in the scheme would be carried out by Miss Gongh.

Insisting that the governors had not reacted to pressure from parents or criticism in the press, Mr Palmer said:

"In fact, the governors over the past months have had many meetings and discussions with Mrs Williams over aspects of the management of the school which have given them concern. Unfortunately, this gave rise to a breakdown in the mutual confidence which governors and head teachers must have in each other and the position became irretrievable."

The GCSE restrictions are being

phased in over two years to give pupils more opportunity to broaden their studies. Mrs Williams has said that the phasing led to divisions among staff and parents, and the formation of factions at the school.

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Top girls' school sticks with new GCSE regime

BY JOHN O'LEARY
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

THE curriculum changes blamed for a dispute that led to the resignation of a west London headmistress are to continue under her successor.

Henry Palmer, chairman of the governors of St Paul's Girls School in Barnes, gives the school's account of events leading to the departure of the high mistress, Helen Williams, for the first time in a letter to *The Times* today. In a second letter to parents, he cites differences over management as the root cause of the dispute, which has become a cause célèbre in the educational world.

Mr Palmer denied that parent power and disagreements over the curriculum played any part in Mrs Williams' resignation earlier this month. The policy of reducing the number of GCSE examinations taken by pupils, which has been unpopular with some parents, will be

implemented. Only the details of the scheme are to be reviewed.

Janet Gongh, who served as deputy to both Mrs Williams and her predecessor, Baroness Brigstock, has postponed a sabbatical to serve as acting high mistress for between one and two years. She was unavailable for comment yesterday.

Mr Palmer said in his letter to *The Times* that there were no plans to change the policy of broadening the curriculum and reducing the number of subjects examined at GCSE level.

The governors were committed to the school's liberal educational values and traditions of scholarship.

He expanded on the theme in a letter to parents, which said that "one-sided and at times tendentious publicity" over Mrs Williams' resignation called for a response. Both governors and staff remained committed to the principle of reducing the number of GCSE examinations taken by pupils, which has been unpopular with some parents, will be

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Pensions ombudsman overwhelmed by complaints

By LIZ DOLAN

COMPLAINTS about the way in which trustees have handled company pensions schemes have swamped the office of Michael Platt, the Pensions Ombudsman, during his first year of operation. In his annual report he admits that his office had initially been so severely understaffed that complainants were having to wait for up to 12 months for their problems to be dealt with.

"Our performance falls sadly below citizen's charter standards," he said. He has recently increased his staff from 12 to 14 and recruited a temporary consultant to help clear the backlog.

Of the 2,186 complaints received by his office in its first year, he had reached a decision on 47. Most of the remainder were either rejected as outside his remit, or were passed to the Occupational Pensions Advisory Service. But 69 complaints had to be carried over to the next year and some were still under investigation.

Mr Platt said he had received complaints from members of all the Maxwell pension funds, but had passed them on to other organisations. "It seems pointless to deal with them here when there are already so many other investigations going on. I have told them their interests are already being fully looked after by others. I am frankly not equipped to carry out a large investigation and, in any case, I can direct until I am blue in the face, but I cannot get back funds that are no longer there," he said.

The effects of recession had



On the march: Rene Dolan, 73, was among retired people who went to Whitehall yesterday to support the British Pensioners' Charter

further complicated what was already a very difficult first year, he said. "The problems facing some companies as a result of the recession have occasionally placed a strain on the financial relationship between themselves and their pension funds. In some instances this has resulted in

underfunding of the scheme or in self-investment in a parent company already under pressure.

Mr Platt said his job was to investigate individual complaints about the past actions of trustees or managers or employers. "I am not able to take an active role as a

watchdog for the members of a particular pension scheme," he said.

When companies went out of business, pension funds were often well down the list of problems considered by liquidators. "When the liquidator is appointed, he frequently finds a confused muddle with

contributions to the scheme unpaid and records fragmentary or missing. Some liquidators give the pension scheme low priority," said Mr Platt.

The appointment of an independent trustee went a long way towards protecting members' interests in this situation. He added: "The first need is

for information — regularly and up-to-date. The time taken to wind up a scheme is frequently very long, and members need to be warned about this.

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Sex muddies Irish economic debate

By LOUISE HIDALGO

AS Ireland's government announced a £100 million fund to try to tackle the republic's deepening unemployment, the country's economic debate has once again been muddled by its sexual one.

Albert Reynolds, the Irish prime minister, this week faced one of the toughest hurdles of his six months in office after another 1,000 job losses were announced, pushing unemployment in the republic to more than 20 per cent — the highest in the European Community.

The issue has also prompted the latest bout in Ireland's Prot-

estant church publicly linked the republic's unemployment woes to the rapid rise in its population in past years.

The remark, from the Very Rev John Paterson, dean of Dublin's Christ Church Cathedral, was immediately seized on by many as implicit criticism of the Roman Catholic stance on birth control.

The dean, speaking in the same church where Cardinal Cahal Daly, head of the Roman Catholic church in Ireland, had the previous day urged the government to take emergency action to combat unemployment, was careful not to blame the Roman Catholic church directly.

Instead, he quoted the the Archbishop of Canterbury's comments earlier this year as he prepared to meet the Pope — that the world's population explosion reflected Roman Catholic teaching on birth control. "Many would say it was fair comment," the Rev Paterson said. "And it might be considered fair comment in this country too."

The dean was forced to defend himself in the *Irish Times*, saying his remarks had not been intended to cause offence or to criticise Roman Catholic doctrine. "It is not for me to tell the Catholic church what to do about their teaching," he told the newspaper.

Pound wins respite as markets steady

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

THE pound won a breathing space yesterday, edging upwards out of the danger area to almost audible sighs of relief in Whitehall. Sterling rose more than half a pfenning to nearly 2.80 German marks — more than two pfennings above its minimum permitted level in the European exchange-rate mechanism.

The government will count no chickens until after the September 20 French referendum on Maastricht and ministers are resigned to

continued pockets of turbulence at least until then. But Tory MPs were hopeful that the threat of an interest rate increase had lifted for the moment and the stock market rose on the back of a surge in Japanese prices.

There was quiet satisfaction in the Treasury that Wednesday's two-pronged strategy of the Chancellor's "no devaluation" statement pledging Britain's continued commitment to the ERM, plus heavy intervention by the Bank of England, had steadied the markets.

As John Smith and his senior colleagues came under attack for not making more of the government's economic difficulties, it was Labour's turn to have its divisions displayed. In an article in the *London Evening Standard*, former Cabinet minister and Euro-sceptic Peter Shore demanded to know what Mr Smith, shadow chancellor Gordon Brown and shadow trade and industry secretary Robin Cook were "up to".

He wrote: "They should be using this crisis to show that Labour, not the Tories, is the party to trust with the economy," and added that it was "simply nonsense" for the leadership to refuse to question the exchange rate while at the same time calling for lower interest rates.

The Treasury was pleased yesterday by remarks by Theo Waigel, the German finance minister, suggesting that there would be a need for lower German interest rates in the medium term and by comments from Michel Sapin, his French opposite number, that there would be no realignment of currencies. But figures showing Germany's inflation rate rising in August after falling for four months dampened hopes of a rapid slowdown in retail prices and an early Bundesbank decision to lower interest rates.

No realignment, page 17

Live on Classic FM

Orchestral performances will be broadcast live on Classic FM at least twice a week between 8pm and 10pm soon after the new commercial station begins broadcasting nationwide on September 7 (Melinda Wittstock writes). The station, which also plans to back young talent by broadcasting live performances each day by young soloists and ensembles from its studios in Camden Town, northwest London, said yesterday that it had lined up the London Symphony Orchestra for 18 live recitals this autumn.

Proetta drug charge

Carmen Proetta, a witness at the 1988 inquest into the shooting to death in Gibraltar of three IRA members, appeared in a Gibraltar court with her husband Maxi yesterday charged with possession of the drug LSD (Dominic Seale writes). The police prosecutor requested a two-week adjournment to prepare the case and "take further advice on the matter". Judge Felix Pizzarro adjourned the hearing to September 10 and Mr and Mrs Proetta were granted bail.

James Gilbey in crash



James Gilbey, the man alleged to be talking to the Princess of Wales in a telephone call recorded by an eavesdropper, was involved in a head-on car crash with a photographer from *The Sun* yesterday. Mr Gilbey, 36, was not injured. Andrew Stycynski, the photographer, was treated for shock, bruises and cuts. A witness said that both cars appeared to be write-offs. No one else was involved in the accident, which happened near Ketteringham Hall, Norfolk, where Mr Gilbey works as a marketing consultant for the Lotus car company. *The Sun* said that Mr Stycynski, 31, had been waiting outside the hall with other journalists since Monday.

£48,000 for Lennon song

John Lennon's draft for his 1967 song *A Day in the Life* sold for £48,400 at Sotheby's yesterday, while Paul McCartney's draft for *She's Leaving Home* fetched £45,100. Both were acquired by anonymous telephone bidders. Scrapped in a black felt-tip pen that evidently gave out, giving way to blue ink, the Lennon document looks more like a doodle than a masterpiece of twentieth-century popular music. Paul McCartney's efforts came in a far more organised package, including his conceptual sketch for the cover of the *Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* album on the reverse.

Tidy bids for Punch

Bill Tidy, the cartoonist who drew for *Punch* for three decades, has submitted a bid to resuscitate the weekly magazine, which closed in April with losses of £1 million a year. He and John Conder, a Canadian doctor who publishes *The Punch Digest for Canadian Doctors*, a bi-monthly subscription spin-off from *Punch*, want to relaunch the magazine as a monthly. United Newspapers, which owns the *Punch* title and now exploits the magazine's 150-year-old archive, supply cartoons and pictures to a wide range of customers, is considering the offer. *Punch* suffered a collapse in circulation from a 1940s peak of 175,000 to just 33,000 last year.

Dinosaur 'had eight hearts'

By ALISON ROBERTS

SCIENTISTS believe that a species of long-necked dinosaur, alive between 200 and 150 million years ago, had eight hearts. They claim that the Barosaurus had one main and one secondary heart in its chest and three pairs of hearts in its neck.

A reconstructed skeleton shows that the creature would have needed a huge heart to achieve adequate pressure to pump blood the 12 metres from its thorax up to its head. Previous research has estimated the heart size of a large saurropod dinosaur such as the Barosaurus at 1.6 tonnes, or eight times that of a whale of similar size. The larger the heart the slower the heart beat: the whale heart contracts at 30-40 beats a minute compared with the hummingbird's 300 or more.

They suggest that the herbivore had multiple pumps in series so that the primary heart would have had to generate only sufficient pressure to drive blood to the next pump, and so on up the neck.

The two main hearts would have been located one above the other in the chest, while the three pairs of satellites would have been at 2.44 metre intervals in the neck.

With eight hearts and high pressure levels the creature would have been predisposed to heart trouble, the scientists say. "Barosaurus would therefore have been subject to early coronary artery disease as well as stroke. Unfortunately, soft tissues are not preserved as fossils, so we can only speculate on and not reconstruct the cardiovascular dangers facing Barosaurus."

The animals would also have had difficulty stooping down, giraffe-like, to pick up food from the ground, the scientists say. The heart rate would have slowed on bending and increased suddenly when it raised its head.

An older Barosaurus, whose physiological responses might have been weaker, would have fainted from dizzying low blood pressure. On falling to the ground it would have quickly regained consciousness as the pressure difference disappeared.

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British Association meeting: economics, brain waves, power stations, bogs, mice and tallness

Economist sees failure blight his profession

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

ECONOMICS is in crisis, its pretensions to explain the world revealed as empty and ineffective. Far from improving in predictive power as time advances, it seems to be getting worse, according to an economic forecaster.

Professor Paul Ormerod, of the Henley Centre for Forecasting, told the British Association for the Advancement of Science meeting in Southampton yesterday that as an academic discipline, economics was characterised by "elaborate theories based on rational behaviour which are rarely if ever tested, and by a conspicuous inability to predict the world".

Students studying economics acquired intellectual skill, but so did those who studied the extinct language of Gothic, he said. "The difference is that scholars of Gothic do not carry such substantial weight in the everyday world."

In a damning and witty

Reefs made of waste give home to lobsters

LOBSTERS are among 250 species that have been found in reefs made out of power station waste material in Poole, Dorset (Nigel Hawkes writes).

Dr Anthony Jensen of the Department of Oceanography at Southampton University told the British Association's meeting yesterday that two wastes generated in huge amounts by coal-fired power stations — pulverised fuel ash and gypsum waste from flue gas desulphurisation plants — had been mixed and refitted to create conical "reefs" in water up to 30ft deep.

Three years after the reefs were put in place, they had created additional habitat and apparently increased the number of living species in the area. He said plants growing on the blocks were gradually transforming them into close copies of local natural reefs.

Dr Jensen said adult lobsters had set up home in the new reefs within three weeks, and showed considerable "site loyalty". Between July 1990 and September 1991, 61 lobsters were caught of a size that indicated that they had migrated to the reefs.

He said this suggested that wastes from power stations could be used to establish lobster fisheries where none existed, or to enhance existing fisheries. He said the idea could also be used in coastal defence structures, such as a plan already proposed to protect the Norfolk Broads by building 16 five-mile reefs 330 yards offshore.

□ Whole-wheat bread may never be the same again. Peter Goodenough of the Agriculture and Food Research Council's Institute of Food Research yesterday described how the straw as well as the ear of the wheat plant might be added to the bread or other foods.

By using specially engineered enzymes to crack open the structure of the straw, scientists are hoping to create an edible fibre with the same qualities as bran. As well as improving the quality of the food, the technique would provide a use for thousands of tons of straw that from next year can no longer be burned in the fields.



Hot-footed: a member of the Wessex Skeptics demonstrates walking on hot embers to the British Association for the Advancement of Science in Southampton yesterday. A team led by Dr Robin Allen set out to prove that the practice was not a God-given power or a triumph of mind over matter, and that legendary feats of coal-walkers of the Far East were possible because of the physics of heat conduction

Why athletes are left feeling sick as a parrot

Nick Nuttall reports that brain waves make the difference between sink and swim in sporting endeavour

THE reason Gary Lineker failed to equal Bobby Charlton's record of 49 goals for England may have been discovered by scientists studying the human brain, who have found two distinct patterns of electrical activity that can spell the difference between sporting success or failure.

During Mr Lineker's crucial moment at Wembley in May he may have suffered an uncharacteristic surge in specific brain frequencies in the beta waveband, flooding from the back of his head. At the same time specific frequencies in the alpha band, which sweep over the front from left to right, could have suffered a marked fall. Put another way, he probably wasn't concentrating on the job at hand.

The findings, which give a scientific description of the

so-called cool head and the remote, almost glazed look which comes over some sports people before an event, have been made by scientists in the sport science and physical education department of St Mary's College, Twickenham. They have been monitoring brain patterns of karate athletes, cricketers and footballers aiming for goal.

David Collins, who presented details of their research at the association's meeting in Southampton, said the karate athletes were monitored at several key moments in the build-up to breaking wood. Two thicknesses were used, one an inch thick and the other three inches.

Dr Collins said that in the final moments before breaking the wood an alpha surge of 8 to 13 hertz was observed accompanied by a fall of beta frequencies in the 14 to 30 hertz band. The surge was even more pronounced in those who broke the thicker wood. The surge and decline did not occur in those who failed to break the thicker wood.

Dr Collins believes what is happening is that a successful sportsman stops brain processing, which is linked with frequencies in the beta

waveband. In other words, he or she is fully prepared. This allows the part of the brain linked with movement to work at peak performance.

Archers in America have been attempting to harness the findings from one test, in which one group of archers was encouraged to try to create winning brain patterns while wired up to an electro encephalograph, or EEG, while another group was encouraged to create losing patterns. Once the two groups had achieved these different electrical brain states a green light came on and arrows were released. Those who made the alpha surge outperformed the others.

The researchers have also been applying psychological techniques to understanding links between aggression and different sports and the impact of anabolic steroids on the mental state of sports people. In the study, carried out with colleagues in America, bodybuilders who took anabolic steroids were compared with those who did not. The participants had 24 heart monitors fitted for six to seven days to see how excitable they got in everyday situations.

"We got much higher heart rates for a given situation for steroid users than we did in the non-steroid users, even when corrected for body size," said Dr Collins. "When they were relaxing their heart rates were higher, when they trained at a similar intensity their heart rates were higher and they were more variable," he said. Imaginary situations of provocation produced violent responses from the steroid users.

Antibody from mice will carry cancer drug

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

BRITISH scientists are to use genetically engineered mouse antibodies to carry a lethal drug that kills cancer cells.

The drug is calicheamycin, a natural product produced by fungi. It is highly effective at killing cancer cells, but also destroys normal cells. Scientists from the British biotechnology company Celltech and the American firm Cyanamid are to use a "humanised" mouse antibody to carry it directly to the inside of the tumour cell.

The antibody is directed at a protein called CD33, found on the wall of the tumour cells but not on normal cells. This means that the antibody can act as a "Trojan horse", selecting only the cancer cells for attack while leaving normal cells unscathed.

David Bloxham, of Celltech Research, based in Slough, told the British Association meeting in Southampton yesterday that the vehicle to carry the drug would be a mouse antibody, modified by genetic engineering so that it was closer to ... responding human antibody. This should avoid the problem of it being recognised as foreign and destroyed by the immune system.

The drug delivery system had been tested in the laboratory against human leukaemia cells and proved effective. The first clinical trials were expected to begin next year in patients suffering from acute myeloid leukaemia, a disease that is diagnosed in about 35,000 people a year worldwide. Patients are generally in their 40s, although an exception is the footballer Gary Lineker's son George. Within two years of diagnosis, up to 90 per cent of adults contracting the disease have died, Dr Bloxham said.

He envisaged the system being used to reduce the bulk of the tumour, or in a technique called autologous bone marrow transplant, in which the white blood cells are removed and purged of cancer cells before being replaced in patients.

Peat extraction endangers last primeval landscape



Sharrod: working to save the Emmer Bog

sure the changes ourselves," Dr Lindsay said.

Plants in bogs were so sensitive that they recorded pollution created during the industrial revolution and volcanic explosions from as far away as North America. "Because bogs rely totally on the atmosphere for water and nutrients, they are very good at locking up minerals," Doctor Lindsay said. "We are only just learning how to read that information: to destroy bogs now would be like taking a sledgehammer to the Rosetta stone."

At yesterday's meeting, conservationists clashed with sci-

entists who defended peat extraction. Alan Robertson, of the UK Peat Producers' Association, said the industry used a small amount of Britain's peat compared with farming and forestry. "We are conscious of the environmental problems and we are trying to agree a strategy with English Nature," he said.

Bogs are not just threatened by gardeners depleting Britain's peat. Conservationists in Hampshire demonstrated how a bog had virtually dried up because it was no longer grazed by cattle.

David Sharrod, of the Hampshire Wild Life Trust, said: "Once grazing stopped in the early part of this century on the Emmer Bog, vegetation took over and took up nearly all the water. In our scheme we will remove the unwelcome vegetation, such as birch trees and bracken, and then reintroduce cattle who will act as mowers."

The scheme would bring back birds, such as the nightjar and stonechat and plants such as the marsh cinquefoil. His task, however, is a tireless one: volunteers have to hack through the thick vegetation spread over 15 acres of ground that is often slushy.

English inch their way above Scots

By NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

THE economic ascendancy of England, particularly southern England, over Scotland during the past 150 years is mirrored in the height of the two countries' inhabitants, a British researcher said yesterday.

Bernard Harris, of the sociology and social policy department of Southampton University, has based his findings on anthropometric surveys carried out from the 1860s to the present day.

When the populations of England, Wales, Ireland and Scotland were studied in 1869 by John Beddoe, the Scots were found to be heavier and taller than their counterparts in the rest of the kingdom.

Men north of the border

were, at 67.5in on average over an inch taller and over a pound heavier than men in the south. Irishmen had the same average stature as the English, and the Welsh, at 66in, were the shortest. In 1883, the comparative figures were broadly the same.

More recent studies showed a reversal in that trend, Dr Harris said, with men in southwest and southeast England, the East Midlands, Yorkshire and Humberside taller now, and the Scots on average shorter. Scotsmen were shown to have an average height of 68in whereas for men in the South West the figure was 68.95in, in East Anglia 68.8in and in the South East 68.77in.

Dr Harris said he believed the changes in height reflected greater prosperity south of the border, which had led to better

diet, sanitary conditions and a decrease in disease. "People in Scotland were probably taller in the nineteenth century because it was rural and they may also have had a better diet. A lot has been written about the virtues of oatmeal and porridge," he said. "In the twentieth century, Scotland is poorer, and just as there has been a change in height so there has been a change in infant mortality rates."

In the mid-nineteenth century, infant mortality rates were lower in Scotland but they are now higher than in England. Overall, the population of the British Isles has risen, which Dr Harris attributes to improvements in the quality of life of the poor after the first world war, the rise of the welfare state and the redistribution of wealth. Men

in Britain today are on average 1.33in taller than they were in 1883. Whether their average height will continue to increase will depend on further improvements in diet and reduction in disease among society's poorer groups.

Dr Harris said social differences based on quality of life and health were still evident in Britain. Men who were senior managers and professionals were, on average, 0.71in taller than skilled manual workers. Similar patterns were seen in women.

Dr Harris said those findings contrasted with patterns in Sweden, an egalitarian country with a tradition of socialist policies. "There the social gradients in height appeared to have disappeared. Sweden also has one of the tallest average heights in the world," he said.

Most people take their holidays during July, August and September.

Most burglars don't.

Home Office statistics show that the majority of burglaries in the UK take place during the summer months.

Which means that if you go off on holiday, you stand a chance of coming home to something far more disagreeable than an uncut lawn.

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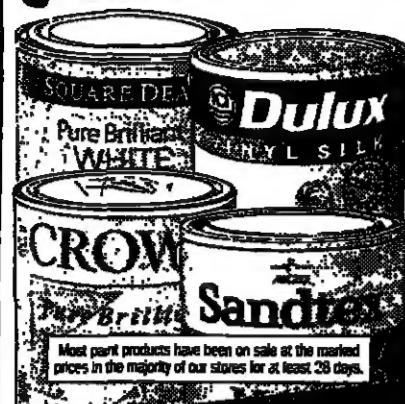
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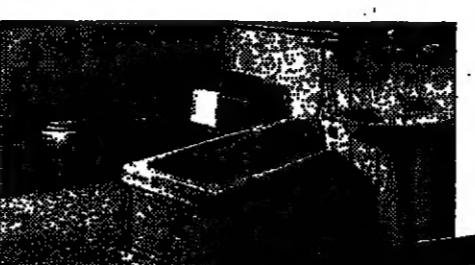
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When

Western intervention in Iraq

Arab world sceptical over exclusion zone

AS American warplanes and surveillance aircraft started to patrol the skies over southern Iraq yesterday to enforce a ban on the Iraqis flying south of the 32nd parallel, congressmen, foreign policy experts and former US diplomats took to the American airwaves to explain the drawbacks and advantages of the West's new intervention in the Gulf.

Operation Southern Watch, as it is codenamed, was launched late yesterday afternoon amid little of the Arab enthusiasm that greeted the start of the Gulf war. The local scepticism, inflated by what many critics have alleged are the shaky legal credentials of the exercise, are certain to be exploited by President Saddam Hussein's propaganda machine in the tense days to come.

Reporters aboard the aircraft carrier the USS *Independence*, which will provide the backbone of the air power to enforce the flight ban, noted that the announcement of the operation was greeted with none of the enthusiasm with

Experts say the no-fly zone leaves Saddam with many options, Jaime Dettmer writes

which the crew met the start of the Gulf conflict. Aboard the carrier the move was immediately christened "Operation Freezing Level" because, in the words of one pilot, "below 32 degrees, nothing moves".

The decks of the *Independence* buzzed with activity as the crew loaded missiles on fighter jets and prepared surveillance planes. They were tight-lipped about which planes would fly.

Pilots were given pistols for protection in case they were shot down in the exclusion zone. The Aegis-class cruiser *Mobile Bay*, the carrier's protective "shogun", followed in the wake of the *Independence* as a civilian tanker pumped fuel into its tanks. "Hopefully

they will comply, which means that we've done our job just by being here," said Lieutenant Cam O'Kuninghut, 26, from Nevada City, California.

Many Middle East experts, however, believe the air exclusion zone and the aerial protection by the allies of Shia Muslim rebels in the south could lead to the dismemberment of Iraq, a rise in tensions between Iran, Syria and Turkey and may result in a long-term US military commitment in the region. "Our grandchildren are going to be in the Gulf to clear up the mess," predicted Ted Carpenter, a Middle East analyst at the Cato Institute.

James Akers, a former American ambassador to Saudi Arabia, said the no-fly zone would not prevent the Iraqis from quelling the Shia insurgency in the southern marshlands north of the city of Basra. Robert Oakley, who served on the National Security Council under Ronald Reagan, doubted whether the ban would lead to the fall of Saddam, the administration's

ultimate objective. "Saddam is clever enough not to give the Western powers a clear target. He will continue to duck and dodge until after our election," he said.

Most analysts questioned what the administration could or would do, if Saddam decided to mount a ground offensive against the Shias with the eight to ten divisions he has

deployed in southern Iraq. When announcing the air exclusion zone on Wednesday, Mr Bush indicated that an increase in attacks on the Shias would be viewed by Washington with concern and said additional military steps could be taken.

White House officials declined yesterday to spell out what this action might be.

Most academics doubted whether Gulf Arab countries, already uneasy over the no-fly ban, would support the idea of US ground operations or bombing raids on Baghdad.

Just as the administration seemed unaware that Saddam has "lots of cards to play".

He criticised the administration for having no clear plan to deal with what he sees as Saddam's two main military options: launch further ground attacks in the south and/or mount attacks against the Kurds in the north. "The one in the north would be more troublesome for us because the Turks are not on board on this policy," Mr Akers said.

A fierce debate also erupted over the administration's change of heart over Iraqi Shias. After Operation Desert Storm, Washington decided to ignore the Shia rebellion in the south because it believed the insurrection was Iranian-inspired and would lead to the south separating from Iraq. Now, it seems to think that all the various Shia groups in the south are committed to a unified Iraq and are not in the

-pocket of Iran.

Phoebe Marr, an expert on Iraq at the National War College, said: "The Shias I know do not want a separate state. They want a reformed Iraqi government in which they play a role proportionate to their numbers in the population."

She pointed out that most of the Iraqi soldiers who fought in the bloody Iran-Iraq war were Shias. Other Middle East experts say this is a naive interpretation and argue that no one in the West really knows much about the Shia rebel groups in the south who are actually fighting Saddam.

What concerns most foreign policy analysts in Washington is the administration's assumption that the state of Iraq will survive if Saddam goes.

They say the likelihood is that Iraq would plunge into a civil war and that Syria, Iran and Turkey could be drawn in.

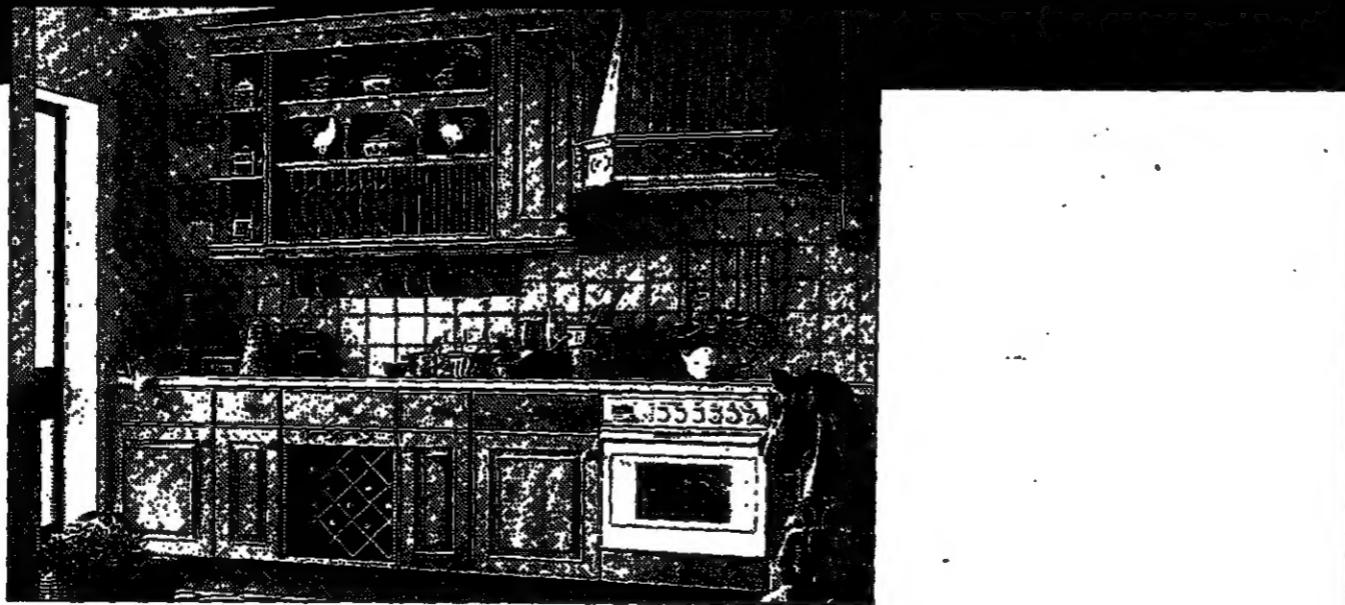
(Additional reporting by Christopher Walker in Nazca and Marian Isa of Reuters aboard USS Independence)

Second Briton held, page 1
Leading article, page 13



Ready to go: a Tornado about to leave RAF Marham for Saudi Arabia, but Arab reaction to further intervention in Iraq is lukewarm

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baron quits
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Traffic in narcotics flourishes

FROM REUTER
IN BONN

TURNOVER in hard drugs in the West has reached £126 billion per year and governments are losing the fight to prevent the profits being laundered, a German minister said yesterday.

Bernard Schmidbauer, a minister in the chancellor's office, said production and consumption of heroin and cocaine were rising and drug barons were becoming more active in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. "The threat from the international narcotics trade has intensified worldwide," he said in a report to the cabinet.

Calculations based on relatively reliable production figures show annual hard drugs turnover in Western markets of \$250 billion. It can be assumed that around half of this is laundered. Laws to combat organised crime and money-laundering were ineffective in many countries and international co-operation was inadequate.

Rudolf Seifers, the interior minister, said the European Community's plans to end border checks and the fall of communism in Eastern Europe would increase the trade.

Gaullist maverick leads French revolt against Maastricht

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN DUNKIRK

PHILIPPE Séguin is an unlikely political star. He is overweight, speaks in long paragraphs rather than short soundbites, smokes unlit Gauloises and wears unashamedly shaggy hair. He has not been within a hundred miles of a professional image-maker, but he has the French government on the run.

M Séguin, of the neo-Gaullist RPR party, has emerged as the leader of the oddly-assorted rebels who want France to reject the Maastricht treaty on Europe's union. He has taken on a political class which backs the treaty, a galaxy of pro-treaty celebrities, most of the Parisian media and his own party leader. But he is edging ahead in the opinion polls.

M Séguin is defiantly old-fashioned. A few posters declaring "Maastricht — it's 'No'" appeared here in Dunkirk before he arrived to speak to a rally one evening this week. Five hundred people packed a community centre and sat in suffocatingly humid heat for two hours while he dissected the treaty, rather like a veteran teacher giving a civics lesson. A day earlier, Dunkirk had produced an audience of only a fraction the size to hear the glacial European affairs minister, Elizabeth

Mme Guigou may remove her expensively-tailored jacket and even her shoes when she takes her campaign to the beach, but she still looks a Parisian down to her elegant but inappropriate stockings. Jack Lang, the minister who heads the government's Maastricht campaign, wears fearlessly trendy spectacles and is organising his tame celebrities — few of whom have read the treaty — for a grand "Concert for Europe" just before the vote.

The rumpled M Séguin, standing behind a tricolour, says that he adores music but it is not the strongest argument for ratifying Maastricht. Had you noticed, he adds wryly, that none of M Lang's Nobel prize-winners are economists? The audience chuckles.

To this populist style, he adds a moderate argument.

On the stump, he accepts the general case for European co-operation and integration, and he concentrates his fire on the defects of the Maastricht treaty alone. He is anticipating a scare campaign by the government suggesting that the Community will fall apart if France kills the treaty.

The Treaty of Rome, the Single European Act and the Franco-German treaty will all still stand if Maastricht collapses, he reassures the Dunkirk crowd. Like his Danish counterparts, he sells the idea that voters can be in favour of Europe, but against Maastricht.

He reminds them that the French national assembly turned down the proposed European Defence Community in 1954 amid predictions that rejection would bring disaster, and the ceiling did not fall in. You must find the nerve to ask for a better treaty, he says: a treaty which hands less power to Brussels, controls bureaucracy more stringently and leaves France her autonomy in foreign and monetary policy.

Usually for a French politician, M Séguin talks with fond envy of Britain's "tailor-made" version of the treaty which allows it to opt out of a single currency. After France votes "No", he says, the British government will be required, since it holds the presidency of the EC, to "take the initiative for renegotiating the treaty". Renegotiation, he adds with a wicked smile, is what London really wants anyway.

• **Gaullist weakness.** The Gaullists who have come out against the treaty have been boosted by people's loathing for the Socialist government. But they have weaknesses of their own which may yet make them vulnerable. Jacques Chirac, leader of the RPR party yesterday repeated his call for a "Yes" vote. But polls show that two thirds of his party members reject the treaty.

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Mortar blast kills three in Bosnian bread queue

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

MORTARS tore into a bread queue formed during a lull in the fighting in Sarajevo yesterday, killing three people and sending others screaming through the streets.

Mortar rounds exploded later in front of the downtown Pierrot cafe wounding nine people, two of them seriously. Hospital workers collected the dead and treated the hurt. The two mortar attacks added to the misery of the Bosnian capital, reeling since the weekend under a relentless duel between Serb artillerymen pounding it from surrounding hills and loyalist government troops.

Bosnia's health ministry, reporting on casualties before yesterday's mortar attacks, said 31 people had died and 189 were wounded across the

Muslims fearful of genocide

FROM ALAN McGREGOR
IN GENEVA

BOSNIAN Muslims are convinced they face extermination, Tadeusz Mazowiecki, the former Polish prime minister who is the United Nations human rights rapporteur in Yugoslavia, said yesterday. "Their situation is the most dramatic of all."

"Croats and Serbs, even if threatened, are conscious they have a state behind them. Eth-

nic cleansing by Serbs in Bosnia-Herzegovina is implemented in a very brutal way. There is a similar policy in Croatia (against Serbs) but much more subtle."

Mr Mazowiecki has just returned from a four-and-a-half day visit to former Yugoslav with Maurice Markof, head of the UN Human Rights Centre, and Louis Joinet and Andre Nozay, heads of the UN working groups on arbitrary detention and summary executions. The team is preparing a report.

Mr Mazowiecki, 65, said of their visit: "It was short but we have seen a lot enough evidence, testimony and documents to justify what I'm saying. Human rights do not exist in Bosnia-Herzegovina."

They had been appalled by the amount of weapons visible, particularly the quantity of light arms in Banja Luka. This excessive weaponry served to intimidate so that people signed papers giving up their property before being permitted to flee.

Bosnia breakthrough, page 1
Cultural genocide, page 12
Letters, page 13

THE BOSNIAN RESISTANCE
The Sarajevo counter-offensive against the Serbs has an unlikely leader, writes Roger Boyes, East Europe correspondent



Head to head: Lord Carrington arguing with President Tudjman of Croatia at the London conference yesterday. The conference is turning out to be one of the most bad tempered ever held in the capital

Tempers flare over the war nobody knows how to stop

FROM MICHAEL BINNION, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

EVERYONE seems angry about something at what must be one of the most bad-tempered conferences ever held in London: the seating, the speaking order, the aims of the delegations and the wording of the documents.

The delegations from former Yugoslavia fear and mistrust one another and each is convinced that the rest of the conference is going up to isolate it. The leaders of minority ethnic groups in the republics are furious at being excluded from the plenary sessions and being made to watch proceedings on closed-circuit television. The opposition parties, peace activists and academics from the region are upset at being kept out altogether, and are holding an alternative "Conference for a Balkan Peace" nearby.

The Europeans are frustrated by their previous failures; the distant powers, such as Japan and China, are baffled

by the complexity of the arguments, and the British organisers are weary sick of all the bickering. Everybody is disgusted by the war; nobody knows how to stop it.

The Balkans begin on the pavement outside the Queen Elizabeth 2 conference centre.

Groups of demonstrators, each waving their messages of hate, jeer every time a rival group comes near. "EC blackmail is no solution", say the Serbs. "Stop media lies. Tell the truth," their banners say.

The entire crisis, they insist, is "manufactured in Germany".

Almost within spitting distance are the blazing-eyed Albanians from Kosovo, passionately denouncing their Serbian oppressors as they chant "Free Kosovo". One cynic denounces the British hosts: "Go on Major, threaten them with another conference," his notice reads.

At the conference, Lord Carrington delivered a historical lecture on why the Balkans were so ungovernable and followed that with a denunciation of those who did not keep their word. Lawrence Eagleburger, the acting American Secretary of State and former ambassador to Belgrade, was also stung into a sharp defence of his Yugoslav entanglements after George Kenney, head of the department on Yugoslav affairs, quit with some tart accusations that the conference was a charade.

Perhaps the only note of

reconciliation and humanity

came from two Jewish outsiders, Elie Wiesel, the American

Nobel prize winner, and Israel Singer, the secretary-general of the World Jewish Congress.

Mr Wiesel, a concentration-camp survivor, was eloquent in his denunciation of the detention camps: so much so that Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, promised to empty Serb-controlled camps immediately. But promises, alas, do not necessarily mean action.

Status inevitably caused a fuss on the first day. What exactly was the diplomatic standing of the unrecognised rump Yugoslav delegation?

Would a man such as Milan Panic, the new prime minister from California, have official status? "He will sit behind his own nameplate. It will simply say Slobodan Milosevic," said a hapless British official.

His faux pas inadvertently summing up the real relationship between the two men, who soon fell to public squabbles about which of them could really speak for Yugoslavia.

By the second day, when everyone had got his set speech on the record, the real haggling began. Documents flew around with the rumours.

There were early reports that Yugoslavia would recognise Croatia but, since nobody recognises Yugoslavia, that threatened to keep the lawyers tied knots for hours.

A draft on the key statement on Bosnia had all the right

phrases on a ceasefire, heavy

weapons, a possible international peacekeeping force and inhuman expulsions of civilians. But a word here, a phrase

there were enough to keep

tempers on the boil.

It was that sort of

conference.

Shadowy irregulars keep alive hopes of their city

THE hero of the hour in Sarajevo is a former debt collector called Juka. He commands a few thousand young Muslims, some of them petty criminals, who form the very core of the Bosnian resistance. It is these soldiers, dressed in black overalls and gym shoes, who are battling street by street in the Sarajevo district of Ilidza.

Other units of the Bosnian army are beginning to crumble; the number of deserters and draft-dodgers is swelling. Croatia is turning them back at the Bosnian-Croatian border, refusing to accept deserters as refugees, and in every Croatian city the military police are checking the documents of Bosnian youths. The Bosnian units that are holding up are those supported directly by the so-called "black legions" of Croatia — ultra-rightwing who fought hard for Vukovar and eastern Croatia last year. The leader of Croatia's Party of Rights, Dobroslav Paraga, says that he has more than 6,000 men fighting in Bosnia.

It was always an uneven struggle. The Serbs inherited not only the weapons and many commanders of the former Yugoslav army but also the communication system.

including Juka's men. They are helped by at least 35,000 Croats from different units. They have no aircraft, only a small number of artillery cannon and rely mainly on light weapons and mortars.

If morale holds, the Muslim force could play an important part in the political bargaining process. Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, who earlier this week stormed out of the London peace conference, returning some hours later, wants to draw a Beirut-style green line down the centre of Sarajevo. The Bosnians, in their counter-offensive, are challenging this division and are trying to win back the Ilidza suburb which before the war had 68,000 inhabitants — roughly 43 per cent Muslim, 37 per cent Serb and 10 per cent Croat.

If one controls Ilidza, one controls access to the airport. That is crucial for both sides. Sarajevo airport has become the symbol of the Bosnian

state; as long as it is open, the state survives as an administrative entity.

Much hinges on this counter-offensive and the military advantage may just be swinging towards the Muslims. The Serbs undoubtedly have the ability to wage a long war — some military analysts say they could fight for another two years. But their supply and communication routes are weak and exposed. This partly explains why the Serbs prefer to bombard Sarajevo after it starts getting dark. The Serb soldiers in the hills are suffering from the extreme heat. Water is being strictly rationed because only limited amounts can be delivered to their artillery positions. Munitions are also being supplied during the daytime while the gunner teams sleep off the night's shelling.

The main supply centre for the Serbs is the military airport at Banja Luka; there are also arms factories and supply depots in the region. Clearly if there were ever to be a Western intervention, Banja Luka would be the first target for air strikes. Bosnian and Croat forces are not strong enough to cripple this centre but they can interrupt the flow of material out of the region.

Aid workers attack Serb police state

FROM ADAM LEBOV IN ZAGREB

UNITED Nations relief officials here have criticised the restrictions against non-Serbs in a town in Serb-controlled Bosnia, saying that the moves were "designed to make it virtually impossible for Muslims and Croats to stay in their homes."

A document issued by the municipality of Celinac, a translation of which has been obtained by *The Times*, lists the harsh restrictions on non-Serbs which came into effect at the beginning of this month. These include a ban on moving around the town between 4.00pm and 6.00am; on gathering in groups of more than three on "loitering" in cafes or other public places; on hunting, fishing or swimming in the town's rivers; on leaving the area without the necessary documentation; on using cars and on contacting relatives outside Celinac without authorisation.

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UNITED NATIONS

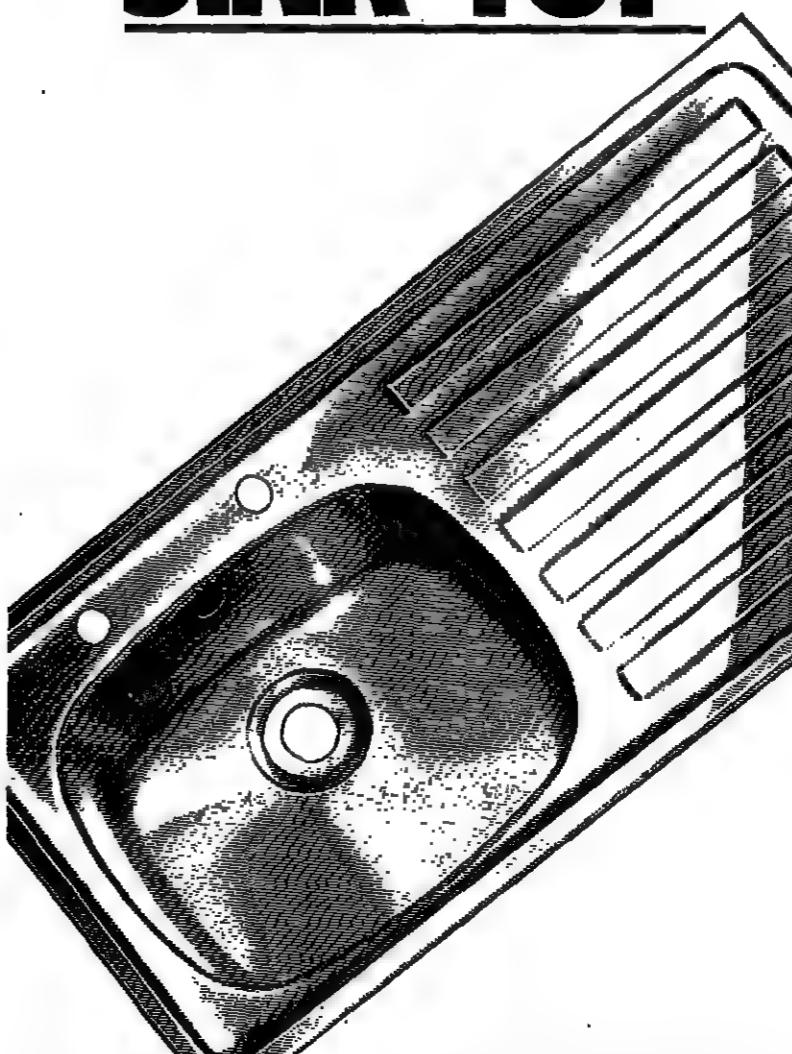
serious," he added. Relief workers in Bosnia report that all sides are introducing apartheid-style rules, but none appeared to be on the same scale as in Celinac. Svetozar Koracevic, the mayor of Celinac, blamed Muslim extremists for provoking Serb extremists. "In this town Serbs and Muslims are equal. The trouble was caused by extremists," he claimed.

Serb militiamen claim that a group of Muslim fighters in the area wearing paper sashes emblazoned with words from the Koran, were responsible for guerrilla attacks in which 38 Serbs were killed. "The area has been surrounded and the military command is trying to protect all ethnic groups," an officer said.

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Why women will desert Bush

Abortion policy could scupper the president, says Conor Cruise O'Brien

Millions of women who usually vote Republican are going to vote for the Democrats next November. Although the state of the economy, and not gender, is at the root of Bush's troubles, his folly in antagonising the women of America will seal his fate.

There are just ten Republican congresswomen. Observers noted that none of them was to the fore at the Houston convention. And no wonder. Seven of them are on record as being pro-choice on abortion and were therefore implicitly repudiated when the convention silently adopted a pro-life platform. And even the three others — who apparently oppose abortion-on-demand — must have gagged inwardly as they contemplated the grotesque character of the anti-abortion proposal to which the Republican party committed itself last week.

The Republican party is now committed to imitating the Republic of Ireland, by inserting in the Constitution of the United States an assertion of the right to life of the unborn. But the Republicans would make the American Constitution even more opposed to abortion than Ireland's. The Irish Constitution qualifies the right to life of the unborn by acknowledging the equal right to life of the mother. That qualification allowed the Irish Supreme Court, last February, to overturn a High Court decision prohibiting a 14-year-old rape victim from leaving the country for Britain, where abortion is legal. But the Republicans would make their constitutional ban on abortion an absolute. Even a woman whose pregnancy threatened her life would be obliged by law to go ahead and have the baby. This is the kind of single issue on which people feel strongly enough to switch their party allegiance.

The Republican policy on abortion is a political freak, a consequence of the time when President Bush felt that the most important threat to him came from Pat Buchanan on the far-right, and so allowed the platform committee to be packed with right-wing loonies. The resulting platform is so embarrassing that he could not allow it to be discussed at the convention. After a good deal of White House arm-twisting, it was endorsed without debate. Mr Bush is now hoping that the issue will go away, and that women will forget about it. They will not.

Everyone knows that the Republicans have no real intention of trying to amend the Constitution in the manner to which theoretically they are now committed. But that is not the point. American women resent it as an insult. And American women are in no mood to put up with insults in the 1990s. That became clear during the Democratic primaries. In two important races, in major states, a female candidate, running on a strongly feminist platform, came from well

behind to defeat a male front-runner. In Illinois in March, Carol Moseley Brown defeated the Democratic incumbent, Senator Alan J. Dixon. Mr Dixon had supported Clarence Thomas in the Senate hearings in which Mr Thomas was accused of sexual harassment by Anita Hill. And it was on that issue that she defeated Mr Dixon.

Those Senate hearings were also the cause of an upset in Pennsylvania, in April, when Lynn H. Yeakel defeated Lieutenant Governor Mark S. Singel for the Democratic senatorial nomination. Ms Yeakel's target, during her campaign, was not her Democratic rival but the Republican incumbent, Senator Arlen Specter. Mr Specter's cross-examination of Anita Hill had been offensive to many women, and that was Ms Yeakel's main theme. She fought for the right to run against Mr Specter, who is now in deep trouble. A poll at the time of the primaries showed that one in four Republicans — let alone Democrats — would vote for her. That proportion must be increasing in the aftermath of the convention.

The issue is not salient at this stage of the campaign, but it is a powerful current under the surface. Mr Bush has every reason to avoid the subject, and Governor Clinton has no particular reason to emphasise it.

Simply by indicating that he is pro-choice he collects the whole of that vote when running against George Bush who is (theoretically) committed to amending the Constitution to criminalise abortion in all circumstances. And the women's organisations will do Mr Clinton's work for him by spreading the word about the Republican undertaking. It will soon be hurting President Bush.

The Houston convention made a hideous hullaballoo about "family values". If they make that central to their campaign, as so many convention speakers promised, will be making abortion a relevant topic, and be obliged to emphasise their commitment to it. That would be fatal, for their opponents could then appropriately remind the electorate of the exact nature of that commitment, as unanimously endorsed by the Houston convention. George Bush seems late in the day to have sensed the danger, for in his acceptance speech he failed to stress the "family values" his supporters had been raving about. The "family values" of Houston are only a pious cover for unloading spleen on Mr Clinton's head, but the debate about them could take a disconcerting turn for the Republicans.

In this and several other domains George Bush's troubles are self-created. He was excessively preoccupied with appeasing his own right wing, of which the pro-life lobby is a powerful and noisy faction. He forgot that the pro-choice people (in various shades) are much more numerous than the pro-lifers, though much less noisy. But it numbers, not noise, that will count in November.

Republican commitment to criminalise abortion is an insult women will not forget in November

Sportsmen should not be punished for expressing controversial views, argues Peter Barnard

Free speech in sport

The closed shop lives in Britain, and it is called sport. The latest evidence for this depressing truth comes with the action taken against the Northamptonshire and England batsman Allan Lamb, fined about £2,000 and banned for two county matches. The crime? Saying in print what many cricket followers have suspected.

If there is no truth in Lamb's allegation — that Pakistan's leading bowlers use unfair methods to swing the ball — then we should expend no sympathy on the player for making public a serious and unsubstantiated charge. Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis are undoubtedly great bowlers and the cheating charges have about them that she defeated Mr Dixon.

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Yet sportsmen who express controversial views are summoned to kangaroo courts, at which the truth or otherwise of their claims is rarely examined. The hearings are held in camera, and the evidence is not published. Those charged are often guilty of a single offence, that of opening their mouths. Indeed, a footballer who calls another "dirty" in public is at least as likely to be fined as the player he accuses.

Cricketers and footballers particularly have in their contracts a clause forbidding them from talking to the media without permission. Often, proposed articles have to be submitted to a sport's governing body, or to the club or county. The fact that Lamb said what he did is not the point; there arises no question of loyalty to one's employers, a matter which has a legitimate place in a contract. The point is that the clause affecting free speech should not be included.

Amazingly, Lamb has been pun-

ished by his county for a statement relating to matches between England and Pakistan. What business is that of Northants? Yet they pronounce while the Test and County Cricket Board and the International Cricket Conference (ICC) stand with hands on hips, as if fielding at third man on a slow afternoon at the Oval.

So far, with typical arrogance, the ICC has simply refused to say why the ball was changed during last Sunday's one-day international, thus fueling the very suspicion that Lamb voiced. Yesterday the ICC again delayed a pronouncement on the ball switch. A further suspicion must be that the ICC has been shaken out of its inertia by Lamb and others. Perhaps cricket followers who waited nearly five days — time enough to play a Test match — for an explanation should have a whip-round for Lamb, although the *Daily Mirror* seems to have handled that. But history offers

sport shoots itself in the foot, for had the ICC explained at the time why the ball was changed on Sunday, Lamb's article would almost certainly not have appeared.

Obviously cheating is deplorable, but such accusations are not exactly earth-shaking. There are cheats in sport at every level. At school more than 30 years ago I was taught by the son of a minor county player how to make small grooves in the face of the bat so as to knock the shine off the ball. I did not use this knowledge but others did and perhaps still do.

Cheating tends to prosper in an atmosphere of mother-best cosiness. English cricket at last appoints a professional manager, but in other respects it lives in the 19th century. The way a game is run is as much a measure of its health as the way it is played. Attitudes do matter, accountability is important. The fact that Rachel Heyhoe-Flint, as good a bat as many in county cricket, cannot become a member of the MCC is not some jolly amusing example of English eccentricity. It is a scandalous example of sport's patronising attitude to its very lifeblood.

This is cultural genocide

Serbs are deliberately destroying Bosnia's mosques, says Roger Boyes

The destruction of Sarajevo's 19th-century town hall and the burning of priceless manuscripts in the Bosnian National Library reveal the hidden heart of darkness in the cruel Balkan war. After centuries of intertwined cultures, one ethnic group is trying to wipe out another: not merely its soldiers or civilians, but its memory. The Serbian prison camps, deplorable as they may be, do not deserve the label "genocidal", but the deliberate shattering of churches, mosques and libraries — the living history of a nation — is a form of cultural genocide.

Islamic culture is suffering most. Bosnia-Herzegovina was a model of hard won tolerance between Orthodox Serbs, Roman Catholic Croats and Muslim Bosniaks. Every city, Sarajevo and Mostar among them, presented a spectacular skyline of minarets and church steeples. Nowadays mosques are favoured targets for Serbian artillery. The minaret of Sarajevo's Magniobik mosque, one of the oldest Islamic prayer houses in Europe, is a ruin. The fire that raced through the bazaar quarter, the Basarsija, also swallowed up the Ferhadija mosque.

Many of the mosques being battered by night were built in the 15th and 16th centuries. When the Turks invaded Bosnia around 1400, they offered protection to those Bosniaks who were willing to swear allegiance to the Islamic rather than Christian faith. The Bosnian ruling class quickly obliged as a means of keeping their estates, and some of the peasants followed suit. But other farmers resisted and stuck to either the Roman Catholic or Orthodox churches. So there were two Slav traditions in Bosnia: one Muslim, aristocratic and metropolitan; the other Christian and rural. The result was that a great deal of money was made available for mosques, religious schools and merchant houses. They survived the shift from Turkish to Austrian occupation, survived the first world

installations in Dubrovnik, no excuses.

Croatian Catholic churches are slowly being rebuilt, but one can see photographs in Zagreb that chronicle their fate during last year's Serbo-Croat war. The first picture shows the Church of St Lawrence in Pernjica on September 7, 1991. Shells had gouged holes in the 18th-century church's stonework. The next, taken on September 15, shows damage to

the spire. The final frame, dated September 17, shows one side of the tower blasted away. Serb commanders argued, when they both tried to explain at all, that church towers could house snipers. But the destruction of St Lawrence and dozens of other 18th-century churches tells a different story: the systematic elimination of Croatian historical landmarks.

This is another dimension of

ethnic cleansing. The premise of the London peace conference is that this sinister practice can be stopped and reversed. People herded out of their villages at gunpoint should be allowed to return as soon as the international community can work out a way of protecting them. The process may take years and may require the use of force, but at least it seems a feasible goal to Western negotiators. The Serb occupiers, however, are working on a different plane altogether. Why else blow up mosques, destroy libraries and trample on ancient cemeteries? They are moving fast to make their occupation permanent. Soon, when there are no more mosques left in Bosnia, they will even be able to rewrite history and declare that the natural religion of the country is the Orthodox faith. Welcome to Greater Serbia.

At the end of the 20th century, it cannot be in the interest of the Orthodox religion that Catholic churches and Muslim mosques are being bombed. Indeed, it is this *Kulturkampf* that has driven Islamic states to such an anti-Serbian rage that they are discussing how to break the United Nations' arms embargo and ship guns to the Bosnian army.

All three churches have an important influence on the views and behaviour of the men on the battlefield, so why are they not cooperating to bring peace in the Balkans? The Serbian Orthodox church took a small step recently by declaring itself opposed to the militaristic policies of Slobodan Milosevic. Yet the church is as committed as ever to the political vision of a Greater Serbia. The Vatican has also entered the fray, by recognising Bosnia-Herzegovina, so distancing the church from Catholic and Croat politicians who want to partition Bosnia.

But for the most part, the local clergy are sitting firmly in their national camps. Not so long ago, the churches lived together more or less successfully in Bosnia, and there seems no good reason why they cannot start to build bridges — literally, by replacing the elegant stone bridges that have been shelled and blown up.

...and moreover
ALAN COREN

I am sitting here, at the prime corner table of the *Cafe du Midi*, sipping my second double espresso of the very early morning and watching the Provincial sun rise behind the little crenellated turret of the *maison* across the village square, and it is not altogether unpleasant, listening to far cocks crowing and near bees humming, as the shopkeepers' hoses sluice the pavement and cyclists wobble through the spray on their way to work. I do not have to do. And I am even happier that I have arrived early enough to bag the prime corner table, because Susan Hayward and Dana Andrews are here beside me, and I shall be able to spot everyone else making for the *Cafe du Midi* as soon as they turn the corner.

That is an important factor, if you are trying to get rid of Susan Hayward or Dana Andrews.

I have been trying to get rid of them for three days now. They are both in a little oblong box, whither they were convened for the purpose of sharing a rather superior weepie in which Dana nosedives his bomber into the ground, leaving Susan to bring up their illegitimate daughter by entering into a doomed *marriage de convenance*, ie hitting the sauce, sleeping around, sobbing a lot, ultimately losing the long-suffering jerk prepared to give her hapless by-blow a surname, and generally having the sort of rough time women had to have in 1951 if they were going to be able to expire the fearful Hollywood sin of pre-marital nookie and leave

a thousand Odeons sniffing as the ubiquitous theme-tune rose to an irresistibly poignant crescendo. Not a bad tune, as a matter of fact, in this case for though the lyrics of the eponymous *My Foolish Heart* would instantly bring the most arthritic set of toes to squirming life, the melody has lingered on for 40 years, and may still be found issuing from the better class of saxophone wherever jazz buffs foregather, mucked about of course yet sturdy enough without to stir nostalgic stumps.

And if all that sounded like a sales-pitch, forgive me: when you have been trying to offload a turkey for three whole days, buckstering enters the soul. For the *Cafe du Midi* is where English expatriates, both permanent and tourist, congregate to trade video: because despite foolishly declared intentions to spend the untarnished evenings in finally mopping up *Proust* or attending *Off the Wall*, I hear them calling "Anyone for six *Rossetti*?" and see the Oval Test waved in eager response, but the closest I have ever come to a woman with an *Eldorado* anthology which I should, God help me, gladly have taken off her had another soaphead not come by and stuck a swatch of *EastEnders* under her nose. And perhaps the worst part of it all is having to come home yet again to a hungry family lined up to cry. "What have you brought us, Daddy Bunting?" Only to have to shake my head and toss Susan and Dana back on their lonely shelf.

Now, usually, I have good stuff

Secondhand slippers

AS IF the royal family did not have enough to contend with, the author Michael Dobbs has alleged that members of the family have sunk to hawking official gifts for profit. The claim led to raised eyebrows yesterday, yet no one was prepared to deny that it happens. Dobbs says that while researching his book *To Play the King* (which is shortly to be televised by the BBC), he discovered that certain royals have been "selling gifts for hard cash, sometimes only for a few pounds".

According to Dobbs, the items most frequently sold are designer clothes, in some cases frocks worth several thousand pounds. They are donated to the younger members of the family by designers grateful for any publicity.

It is most dispiriting. I watch all the others gleefully swapping, say, *Singin' in the Rain* for a 3-hour compendium of *LA Law*, I hear them calling "Anyone for six *Rossetti*?" and see the Oval Test waved in eager response, but the closest I have ever come to a woman with an *Eldorado* anthology which I should, God help me, gladly have taken off her had another soaphead not come by and stuck a swatch of *EastEnders* under her nose. And perhaps the worst part of it all is having to come home yet again to a hungry family lined up to cry. "What have you brought us, Daddy Bunting?" Only to have to shake my head and toss Susan and Dana back on their lonely shelf.

Now, usually, I have good stuff

French recipe

DOWNING STREET is taking the French opinion polls very seriously indeed. Press officers have already prepared a first draft of a statement in the event of the French voting "Non" to the Maastricht treaty. The statement will be ready for issue on September 21, the day after the referendum.

Yet given Britain's presidency of the EC, John Major will also be expected to make an important policy statement on the hoof about the implications for the future of the EC. This is proving more troublesome, and the big brains in both Whitehall and Brussels have already

been asked informally to come up with ideas.

As to the implications for sterling, commentators are already suggesting that it could provoke the biggest financial storm since 1931, when Britain abandoned the gold standard, sterling was devalued and the Labour government fell. There is an ominous coincidence about the date, too. It was on September 21 some 71 years ago that the crisis forced the abandonment of the gold standard.

Loyal post

NORMAN LAMONT'S plan to hire a new economics adviser with close links to the City is not going as well as he had hoped. City analysts are not exactly falling over themselves to work for the chancellor. Now Lamont is hoping to poach a fellow minister's adviser.

Top of his shortlist is Jeremy Mayhew, adviser to Peter Lilley. Mayhew is certainly loyal, as Bill Robinson, a key member of the chancellor's kitchen cabinet, can confirm. Robinson recently sat through a mortifying lunch with Mayhew and the directors of Taylor Woodrow. The lunch for ministerial special advisers and Tory party researchers was going well until the host, Peter Lilley (then chairman) criticised the government's economic policy.

While Robinson made polite political noises, Mayhew took strong exception to the astonishment of other guests. He berated Lilley, whose company is a generous benefactor of Tory causes yet has not been immune to the recession, insisting that all is well, and that anyone who suggests otherwise is a traitor. He then departed, leaving Robinson to soothe Lilley. Loyal he may be, but whether Mayhew is the man to build better relations between Lamont and the boardrooms is another question.

• This week, Ray Swinburn of Kirkby Moorside in Yorkshire reported his telephone out of order. BT's York office, with commendable promptness, wrote the following: "We have fully investigated the fault which you reported. We have tried to phone you to confirm this but without success. If you feel that you still have a problem with this line, don't hesitate to call us free of charge." Most considerately, the line remains stubbornly out of order.



BUSH CLEARS THE SKY

The best that can be said for the allies' "no-fly" air exclusion zone over southern Iraq is that it keeps up the pressure on President Saddam Hussein. Otherwise its effect is almost entirely symbolic. Few Shia lives will be saved by the grounding of Iraqi helicopters. Few allied lives will be at risk. The operation will be relatively cheap. It will not cause the dismemberment of Iraq or lead to a breakaway Shia state in the marshes. It may increase dissatisfaction in the Iraqi armed forces with a dictator who has again brought humiliation to his country. Or it may merely strengthen Saddam's malign grip.

The reasons why the allies are enforcing a no-fly zone on Iraq are all too obvious. It is intended to remind George Bush's critics of his finest foreign policy achievement and thus to boost the chances of his re-election. Increasingly riled by Saddam's cat-and-mouse game with United Nations weapons inspectors, the Americans feel obliged to react to his defiance. A military response is hard. Attacking the various ministries in which telltale documents were supposed to be lying around would not only hamper the inspectors' task but risk high civilian casualties. A public relations showdown over the treatment of the Shia population is easier and more humanitarian.

Mr Bush was embarrassed when leaks of the administration's plans appeared on the eve of the Republican convention. Angry denying what the cartoonists ridiculed — dropping bombs to pick up votes — Mr Bush insisted that the sufferings of the Shias had suddenly worsened, and that there was an imminent danger of genocide. Yet the oppression has been going on continuously since the failed Shia uprising at the end of the Gulf war. The main threat to the Shias comes not from the air, but from Iraqi ground forces and Saddam's long-term plans to destroy the marsh Arabs' way of life by draining or even poisoning the waterways that keep them isolated.

The Anglo-American plan was delayed

while the governments concerned explained what they were threatening to do. This explanation was challenged by quibbles about the wording and authority of security council resolutions 687 and 688: urgent humanitarian need was finally cited as the overriding legal justification. The Americans were even more embarrassed by disquiet among their Arab allies. The more radical states such as Syria expressed opposition, and Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Turkey have voiced fears that the action could lead to the break-up of Iraq.

What is now happening is a confusion of interests in the future state of Iraq. That country's neighbours do not want it divided by the 32nd and 36th parallels — the northern and southern lines of the two exclusion zones — into three entities. Turkey does not want an independent Kurdish-Saudi Arabia from Iranian fundamentalist influence in any Shia state on its borders. Egypt, struggling against fundamentalism, does not want any Western dictat in the Arab world to inflame anti-Western feeling. Iraq is a state created from disparate entities after the first world war. But even the West, witnessing the traumatic break-up of countries such as Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union, does not want a further source of instability in the Middle East.

The most that can be said about the present adventure is that a no-fly order is no more likely to break up Iraq than it is to topple Saddam or save the Shias. But a similar policy has not saved the Kurds from Baghdad's economic blockade. If Saddam moves yet more ground troops and heavy artillery against the Shias, the West will have to decide whether to plunge further into the marshes in defence of the Shias or accept a further reverse at Saddam's hands. So far Britain's involvement is that of a loyal ally rather than a convincing or convinced world policeman. The allies must pray that what was meant as a public relations show will not involve loss of life.

GAMEKEEPING BY POACHERS

Self-regulation of the City of London is failing. The idea that regulation of vested interests by vested interests could ever protect the consumer was flawed from its inception. In the four years since the elaborate network of self-regulatory organisations (SROs) was set up, a succession of scandals has exposed the inherent weaknesses of a system in which financial practitioners are expected to police themselves.

Yesterday the pensions ombudsman lamented his inability to act on behalf of pensioners who are worried that their rights are insecure. Yet the very organisation that is supposed to regulate the pensions industry, the Investment Management Regulatory Organisation, proved itself unequal to the task when Robert Maxwell swiped £450 million from his pensioners under its nose. The chairman of Imro subsequently resigned, along with a couple of its staff. Reshuffling the boardroom chairs, however, will not cure the fundamental problem: the City is no longer amenable to self-regulation.

In the old days, when the City was run like a club, a gentleman's word was supposed to be his bond. It generally was. Those who neglected to play by the rules were blackballed. The City was criticised for being too exclusive and uncompetitive. But that very lack of competition allowed the players to refrain from testing the unwritten rules to destruction.

When the City was opened up to international competition in the 1980s, the idea of abiding by the spirit as well as the letter of the rules quickly evaporated. American investment bankers, used to the tough regulation of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), were uncomfortable with non-statutory regulation. In the fiercely competitive climate that followed Big Bang, a sort of moral undercutting took place. Rules were bent in an effort to win business and fraud flourished.

The mistake ministers made was to assume that a freeing-up of markets could co-exist with a light regulatory regime. The

opposite is the case. In America, renowned for its free markets, the SEC is one of the toughest regulatory bodies. It employs talented and ambitious lawyers and investigators to pursue financial impropriety, and wrongdoers live in terror of being caught. No regulatory body in Britain inspires such fear and awe.

The hope was that SROs would be run by high-minded practitioners with an interest in rooting out those that tarnished their reputation. If financial regulation were simply a matter of catching the corrupt, that motive might be strong enough. But the issues are greater than that. Why for example should Lastro, the life assurance SRO, have an incentive to crack down firmly on salesmen who sell endowment mortgages to people who would be better off with repayment mortgages? All life assurance companies have an interest in maximising their sales of endowment policies, not just the crooked ones. Who then is to protect the consumer who lacks the sophistication to challenge the salesman?

Since the privatisation of utilities, Britain has begun to discover the merits of tough regulation on behalf of the consumer. Sir Bryan Carsberg at Ofcom, for instance, vastly improved the service that customers could expect from British Telecom. These regulators are now the conduit for the citizen's charter. But it would be patently absurd if Ofcom were to be dominated by directors of BT and Mercury, or Ofwat by the water companies. Regulation requires tension between the police and the policed. Such tension can never arise when the two are the same. Under self-regulation, whenever the interests of the consumer conflict with those of the producer, the latter will win.

If Majorism is distinct from Thatcherism, it is in the elevation of the rights and interests of ordinary people. The citizen's charter should be extended to the City. And the only body that can enforce it is a statutory organisation with sharp teeth. Britain needs its own SEC.

GREEN REJOINS THE RAINBOW

The decision by Sara Parkin to stand down from the chair of the Green party's executive may mark the party's death knell. If so, its history will have followed a familiar pattern. European green parties have tended to rise, prosper and wither within no more than a decade. The difference between them lies merely in the stage they have reached in this boom-bust cycle.

The French were late in discovering the political importance of the environment. Their two green parties are still on the ascendant, performing well in this year's regional elections. In Germany, the Greens entered parliament as early as 1982, but the growing split between "fundis" and "realos" eventually disillusioned the party's best-known and most popular activists. In the end, the party fell apart over its opposition to German unification. The British Green party's life-cycle has been much shorter than that of its European counterparts. But the anatomy of its decay is surprisingly similar.

The party did not reach its moment of glory until the 1989 European parliamentary elections, when it attracted 15 per cent of the vote. An opinion poll at the time suggested that as much as 45 per cent of the population might at one stage or another be persuaded to vote Green. But three years after the headlines proclaimed the birth of yet another mould-breaking third force in British politics, decadence has set in. Ms Parkin has now concluded that "the Green party has become a liability to green politics".

The demise of green parties is not simply the result of established parties stealing

green policies. This may be partly true in Germany, where public awareness of green issues has persuaded all established political parties to adopt an extensive range of environmental policies. Generally, the extent to which established parties have taken on green policies has been proportional to how long green parties have existed.

As green parties wither away, their policies have been borrowed even more by the European Community, than by national parties or governments. Damage to the environment, at least where its effects transcend national boundaries, is one area where a shift in responsibility to a European level makes sense.

But the increasing importance of the environment in politics may be due less to green parties than to changes in consumer preferences, as evidenced by the surprisingly sudden demise of aerosol sprays and the popularity of the catalytic converter. Politics contributed to this process by giving initially reluctant manufacturers the necessary push, but no more.

Sudden and unexpected changes in consumer taste are also the main reason for treating as futile the long-term forecasts of environmental doom and gloom. The leading zero-growth proponents of the 1970s now accept that some of their previous warnings were too defeatist. They did not take sufficient account of the changes of behaviour that increased environmental awareness would produce. It is entirely appropriate that the collapse of the single-issue Green party should coincide with this recognition.

Call for a British lead in Yugoslavia

From Mrs S. Risaluddin and others

Sir, During its presidency of the EC Britain has a special opportunity to take the lead against the crimes being committed against innocent civilians, including children, women and the elderly, in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The price of inaction is the death, torture, internment and expulsion of thousands more.

We are deeply disturbed by the reluctance of the international community to take decisive action to stamp out "ethnic cleansing". Failure to act is a betrayal of British traditions of tolerance and concern for the persecuted.

The international community should make its central aim the immediate end to the genocide and the restoration of order and authority in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Our government should demonstrate that it is willing and able to ensure that wrong-doers will not enjoy the benefits of their wrongdoing. There is a real risk that the period of Britain's presidency of the EC will go down in history as a time when concentration camps, ethnic cleansing and genocide were once again unleashed in Europe, unchecked by an international community demonstrably unwilling to act against such outrages.

Yours faithfully,
SABA RISALUDDIN,
(The Calamus Foundation),
HUGO GRYN, GREVILLE JANNER
(Maimonides Foundation),
ADELI MERUK
(UK-Bosnia Support Group),
MOHAMMED SARWAR
(Islamic Rights Movement Committee),
The Calamus Foundation,
183 Eaton Square, SW1.
August 25.

Bosnian reaction to London talks

From Mr Paul Tyrtkovic

Sir, Leaders of Croatia (letter, August 25) and the Bosnian Serbs (August 19) have each stated their case on the underlying causes of the Balkan conflict. I should appreciate the same opportunity, on behalf of the government of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Serbia has increased its territory by 150 per cent in the last 150 years (Kosovo, Sandjak, Vojvodina, Montenegro) and now 70 per cent of Bosnia. This has been achieved not only by conquest, but also by sacking down at conferences, with the help of the West.

Since 1918, Serbs have stolen 1,076,685 hectares of land, mainly from the Muslims in the so-called "agrarian reform" of 1921. The Serbian response to the public outcry, against this "economic genocide", was to issue bonds, repayable over 40 years, of which so far, only 4 per cent have been paid up.

Since April 1992, Serbs have

driven out some half million Muslims and Croats, the indigenous population of Bosnia since AD 600, and begun settling Serbs in lands which never belonged to Serbia. To speed up these policies, pro-Serbian secret services in Bosnia-Herzegovina and abroad have been working to drive a wedge between Croats and Muslims. Having achieved their aims, there is now every likelihood that Serbs will topple Milosevic, their president in order to present Serbia as a democracy.

The killing, conquest and ethnic cleansing are Serbia's preliminaries to their hidden agenda at the conference now sitting in London. Although the results of the conference may help to dispel some of our anxieties, the West is still treating the aggressor and the victim alike and Western political action is still focused on humanitarian aid, giving the Serbs free rein to get on with their murders. Serbia may even feel able to abandon some of its gains to allow the West to produce an overall "Yugoslav compromise".

The creation of Yugoslavia was a mistake and the chief cause of the present violence. Therefore, no overall Yugoslav solution is acceptable. If a balance of power is to be established in the Balkans, Bosnia-Herzegovina must be firmly drawn inside the Western camp. Serbia, as the most aggressive state in Europe, must be disarmed and under no circumstances allowed to establish a Serbian state in Bosnia.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL TYRTKOVIC
(Spokesman for the government of
Bosnia-Herzegovina),
14 Baxton Road,
Blackheath, SE3.
August 27.

Easier living

From Mrs Doreen Kaufman

Sir, The diner who ordered four double brandies in a Chinese restaurant in Leeds and was shocked by the £140 bill (report, later editions, August 26) might do well to visit Prague. Many restaurants there offer a wide selection of brandies, the best from a crystal and silver decanter at £15 for a "double", usually served in a huge Bohemian goblet.

He will also be pleasantly surprised by the price of the meal: an excellent three-course dinner for two persons costs about the same as the brandy — £15.

Yours faithfully,
DOREEN KAUFMAN,
Pontrusina, Park View Road,
Woldham, Surrey.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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3

Radio 3: timely change, anti-elitism, or terminal decay?

From Mr Brian Whittingham

Sir, Nicholas Kenyon, controller of BBC Radio 3, would seem to be in need of allies ("Why Radio 3 needs change", August 22). I submit that his innovations will be a godsend to those members of the intelligentsia whose memories may be failing them and for whom constant reminders of which programme they are listening to will be most reassuring.

Enthusiasts — and there may be dozens of them — of interminable cricket commentaries will also be profoundly grateful, even if devotees of the old Radio 3 become apprehensive that Mr Kenyon intends to introduce commentaries on other sports.

To combine snippets of music ranging from Gregorian chants through Bach and Beethoven to jazz and Schoenberg, interspersed by repetitious headlines (in lieu of news summaries), all co-ordinated by disc-jockey style announcers, may finally achieve the full demise of the old Third Programme and the creation of a single, all-purpose, classless and essentially non-elitist pot-pourri of general appeal to the undiscriminating.

Yours faithfully,
PATRIC DICKINSON,
38 Church Square,
Rye, East Sussex.
August 24.

From Dr G. C. Cook

Sir, Neither your leading article nor Nicholas Kenyon has attempted to define the "new" audience which the Radio 3 changes are intended to capture: Philistines yes, but I should like more details of those who are considered to be seeking music in the style of Bach's greatest hits.

Which sections of the population require a series of curiously selected news headlines (almost precisely the same on each occasion) no fewer than four times during the course of 61 minutes — 7, 7.20, 7.40 and 8am?

Yours faithfully,
G. C. COOK,
Hospital for Tropical Diseases,
St Pancras, NW1.
August 24.

From Mr Peter Mullen

Sir, Mr Nicholas Kenyon, in seeking to defend his changes to Radio 3, writes of the need "to give time to respond to listener reaction and refine the formats". To my mind this is not the language of a controller of music but of the marketing man.

Yours faithfully,
PETER MULLEN,
16 White Road,
Dringhouses, York.
August 25.

From Mr Patric Dickinson

Sir, I was on the staff of the BBC at the conception and inception of the Third Programme. I was actively engaged in planning and producing its programmes of poetry and sometimes drama. Neither your leader (August 24), Mr Kaufman ("A musical turn-off", August 17), nor Mr Kenyon seem to have grasped

that the Third was never conceived of as a "music" programme.

The general idea was to foster all the arts broadcasting could deal with: drama, poetry, talks, academic or of any other creative nature, as well as music — i.e., the Third was based on a general pursuit of quality.

As we know, the emphasis has changed and is changing further, but let neither Mr Kaufman or Mr Kenyon be deceived. The reality will lead to more background listening and more portables on kitchen tables. I recall the late Patrick Hume's aphorism: Improvement means deterioration.

Yours etc,
PATRIC DICKINSON,
38 Church Square,
Rye, East Sussex.
August 24.

From Mr Aubrey Wilson

Sir, The answer to Mr Forrest's question is an emphatic "yes". When it was decided in the 1950s to reduce investment in cultural broadcasting in favour of more popular materials a powerful group was formed to defend the then Third Programme.

I served under the chairmanship of Peter Laslett, and with the active support of such luminaries as Ralph Vaughan Williams, T. S. Eliot, Bertrand Russell and Laurence Olivier. Known as the Third Programme, the group had considerable success in ensuring that cultural broadcasting should be a permanency in Britain.

Yours faithfully,

AUBREY WILSON,
6 Lombardy Place, W2.
August 24.

From Mr Stanley Anderson

Sir, I applaud Nicholas Kenyon for his spirited and imaginative efforts to defend Radio 3. Indeed, the new schedule promises something for all of those interested in the arts.

However, until the listening public can be sure that the scheduled programmes will not be cancelled in order to facilitate broadcast of a rain-delayed cricket match his best efforts will come to nothing.

Yours sincerely,

STANLEY ANDERSON,
35 Hemsley Road,
South Shields,
Tyne and Wear.
August 23.

From Mrs Phillipa Barton

Sir, Changes in the Radio 3 morning and early evening programmes are inept: I find banalities, trivia and chat, constantly reiterated plugs for the day's programmes and snippets linked to them boring and irritating.

Other programmes give news if we want it; local radio gives accurate information about travel and weather at predictable times; chat can be found elsewhere.

So I shall switch off and try Classic FM. Could it be worse?

Yours etc,
PHILLIPA BARTON,
49 Godfrey Street, SW3.
August 22.

From Mr M. Widdup

Sir, Anatole Kaletsky suggests ("A taste of their medicine", August 20) that if there is no other way out of recession, Treasury officials should be fired — starting with the permanent secretary, Sir Terence Burns.

Sir Terence was brought into the Treasury from the academic world, and more recently promoted to permanent secretary, by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, with the approval of the then prime minister. Perhaps they expected to be offered the sort of advice they wanted to hear?

Yours faithfully,
M. WIDDUP,
Cherry Tree Cottage, Manor Close,
East Horsley, Leatherhead, Surrey.

From Mr J. Roper-Evans

Sir, Why, if the average American spends too much, causing the dollar to fall, and if something like 600 French (to extrapolate from the latest Paris opinion poll) dislike the EC enough to wreck the Maastricht treaty, should I be threatened with a higher mortgage?

SOCIAL NEWS

Birthdays today

The Duke of Argyll, 55; Sir Kenneth Berrill, economist, 72; the Right Rev J.R.E. Bone, Bishop of Reading, 62; Sir Ralph Kilner Brown, former High Court judge, 83; Sir Cecil Collier, QC, former chairman, Police Complaints Authority, 73; Miss Imogen Cooper, pianist, 43; Lord Cudlipp, 79; Professor Wendy Davies, historian, 50; Sir Rupert Hart-Davis, author and publisher, 85; Sir Godfrey Hounsfield, inventor of EMI scanner, 73; Mr Ian Hughes, footballer, 45; General Sir William Jackson, 75; Sir John Kingman, vice-chancellor, Bristol University, 53; Dr Joseph Lums, former secretary-general, Nato, 81; Air Chief Marshal Sir Nigel Mayhew, 71; Miss Elaine Mellor, jockey, 49; Miss Jo Richardson, MP, 69; Sir Thomas Scrivenor, former colonial officer, 84; Mr John Shirley-Quirk, bass-baritone, 61; Sir Peter Thornton, civil servant, 75; Dr Roger Williams, hepatologist, 61.

Service dinner

HMS Neptune
The Wardroom Mess President, Commander J.L. Milnes, and the Members of the Wardroom Mess, HMS Neptune, last night held a Mess Guest Night at the Clyde Submarine Base, Faslane, to bid farewell to Captain D.A.H. Kerr, OBE, Captain of HMS Neptune. Also present were Naval Base Commander, Commodore J.A. Trewby, ADC, and Officers of FS Emercude.

Appointments

Mr Roger Westbrook to be British High Commissioner to Tanzania.

Minister halts Minto House demolition

By KERRY GILL

MINTO House, family seat of the Earls of Minto, was saved from demolition last night hours after the first flames began destroying the remains of the mansion's interior.

The neo-classical house, remodelled to a design by William Adam in the early nineteenth century, was designated a grade A listed building by Ian Lang, the Scottish secretary, as senior officials of Historic Scotland desperately sought to save the Borders mansion from further destruction.

By granting the order all work by the demolition contractors must stop. The last minute decision was welcomed by conservation groups that had campaigned to save Minto House over the past few months.

The sixth Earl of Minto last week announced that the house, for years just an empty shell, would be pulled down after a deal to strip it stone by stone to Japan to be rebuilt as a country club, fell through.

Demolition contractors moved into the house in the Scottish Borders yesterday to begin gutting the interior prior to bulldozing the structure into a huge pit next week. Fires were set in the vaults to get rid of unwanted wooden

St Maur's School, Weybridge

St Maur's Senior and Preparatory Students will return on Thursday, September 3, 1992. Members of the Joint St Maur's School and St George's College Sixth Form will register on Tuesday, September 1, 1992. Deirdre Neill is Sixth Form Head Girl and Jane Wildenberg is Deputy Head Girl. Senior School Head Girl is Lucinda Wood, and her Deputy is Lucy Robinson.

The Drama Department's Autumn term production of *Cabaret and King* will be a tour to Westward and Halsbury Preparatory Schools as well as giving performances in school during the week beginning Monday, October 19. The Art Department's Paris trip will take place during October half-term. Presentation Evening will be on November 26, 1992, in the Music Hall; A Celebration of Christmas will be on December 10, at 7.00pm in the School Chapel. Term ends on Wednesday, December 16, 1992.

University news

Wales
Professor Robert Mansel has been appointed professor and head of the department of surgery at University of Wales College of Medicine, in succession to Professor Les Hughes, who has retired.

Latest wills

Sir William Reginald Verdou-Smith, of Leigh Woods, Bristol, chairman of the British Aircraft Corporation, left estate valued at £733,660 net.

The Hon. Mrs Ans Astor, of Chelsea, left estate valued at £1,292,405 net.



Hamish Robertson, of Struan Apiaires, inspecting his hives which will produce up to 40 tons of honey a year.

Apiarist gets a buzz from his thriving business

By KERRY GILL

PRODUCING up to 40 tons of honey a year for the most discerning palates in the United Kingdom and the Continent is a labour intensive business. Hamish Robertson, celebrating four years as a full-time apistar, now employs 14 part-time workers and almost 25 million bees.

Yesterday Mr Robertson, who has attracted more than 300 customers to his Highland company, Struan Apiaires, was held up as an example of how small businesses can succeed in the teeth of one of the worst recessions in recent years.

Four years ago Mr Robertson, an engineer with Hydro-Electric, was made redundant and was forced to turn to his tiny kitchen table-based

company in Coron Bridge to make a living. Helped by his wife, Joan, and two sons, Nigel and Martin, he has embarked on a £95,000 expansion plan that from today will enable his company to fill up to 100 jars of top quality honey every minute.

The new equipment, made possible by a £47,000 investment package from Ross and Cromarty Enterprise, the local arm of Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE), will allow Struan Apiaires to increase its European market and take on more staff. Already Mr Robertson and his bees have won many prestigious customers.

Yesterday HIE network, launched only a year ago, produced its first annual report and disclosed that it had been able to help create and retain more than 2,700 jobs in the High-

lands and Islands. Struan Apiaires is typical of the small businesses that the government agency has aided.

Mr Robertson, who has kept bees since he was aged 14, had feared redundancy for several years and the creation of the apistar was seen as a fall-back should the dreaded day dawn. He has now appointed agents in Belgium and Holland to help a European sales push for his honey gathered from more than 400 hives across 750 square miles of surrounding countryside. Depending on the summer the bees can produce anything from five to 40 tons of honey a year. There was one drawback, admitted Mr Robertson:

"You do get stung but it is something you get used to. I must have been stung thousands of times."

Sir Robert Cowan, HIE chairman,

said the enterprise companies had added local control to business development in their respective areas. "We have confounded the sceptics who doubted the concept of local enterprise companies. Our track record in just a year is impressive and I believe it represents the start of a new era for development in the Highlands and Islands," he said.

Despite setbacks in the region, including the recent announcement that 1,300 jobs will be lost at the McDermott (Scotland) base at Ardross and the disappearance of the US base on the Holy Loch, more than 1,000 business projects were assisted, some £55 million of private sector investment was attracted and more than 4,400 people began training courses.

Purge on aerobics classes

By SIMON TATT

THE aerobic beat which keeps eight million Britons rhythmically flexing their muscles—in almost any available space from sauna bar to oil rig—could be illegal.

Thousands of keep-fit classes face prosecution because the music they use is not officially licensed, says Photographic Performance Limited (PPL). As much as £4 million in unpaid fees could be due.

PPL licenses the broadcast, public performance and dubbing for public performance of sound recordings, on behalf of the recording industry. Such licences have been issued by PPL since 1934, and few unsanctioned tones escape its eagle eye.

But the accompaniment for

the burgeoning enthusiasm for communal exercise has evaded notice, until now.

"It has become increasingly obvious that the area of health and fitness classes has grown considerably over the past few years and is continuing to grow with literally thousands of classes taking place each week," a PPL official said. "What may not be obvious to those involved is the necessity to obtain the appropriate licence to obtain the appropriate licence for the public performance and/or copying of recorded music which is an integral part of the various classes."

"Many of them do not have a PPL licence, although performing without a licence is illegal and could result in a prosecution and substantial fines."

But the accompaniment for

aerobics is a booming industry. Born in California in 1968, the British Aerobics Association first measured the number of people taking part in 1987 when they found five million, and now there are eight million. "It suddenly took off, but now it is monitored by us through properly qualified teachers," Roger Byrne, chairman of the association, said.

There might be as many as 100,000 teachers operating, and a large proportion of them are using illegal tapes.

Sharon Walker, editor of the magazine *Health & Fitness*, said: "Most teachers make almost nothing out of their classes, which they choreograph from their own ideas using the music which suits. This means they have got to find the money to use ready-made licensed tapes which may not suit their programmes."

"It is just the PPL trying to make more money out of people who aren't making very much anyway."

The PPL spokesman said: "It is the thin end of the wedge. We have performers trying to sustain on very little, and this income is very important to them. A lot of teachers are unknowingly using unlicensed tapes which they have bought, and we would rather they used material available which is licensed," he said.

A crowd of women and children gathered in the street as Lord James was shown the extent of the deprivation. One mother said: "They should ask us. The flats are frozen, the windows don't fit. We have

Glasgow visit

Minister confronted by decaying homes

By KERRY GILL

CRAIGENDMUIR street, Blackhill, is one of the worst places to live in Glasgow or, indeed, anywhere in Europe. Two rows of grey, decaying tenements, the facades are pockmarked with boarded up windows. Black soot stains the outside walls where vandals have set alight to the abandoned interiors.

Yesterday Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, the Scottish housing minister, was invited to see the extent of the city's chronic housing problems after the council announced that it needed almost £1.5 billion to spend on improvements to 140,000 houses within the next eight years.

Locked in a "financial strait-jacket" because of government constraints on borrowing, it seems virtually impossible that the council will be able to help people in the foreseeable future.

Maria Fife, Labour MP for Maryhill, who accompanied Lord James on his tour, said: "He now knows that the amount of money Glasgow is permitted to borrow comes nowhere near our housing needs. People are living in appalling conditions that are totally intolerable."

The cost of acquiring an individual licence is about £50 a year, but that allows instructors to use only music with all necessary copyright paid on it.

had to jam screws into the frames to stop them rattling. The ceilings are leaking and there is damp all over our walls." Another woman said she had had to erect a shower in her kitchen because her bathroom was running with damp. The few shops are hidden behind so-called vandal proof grilles. Littlehill primary school is similarly protected. A pub looks more like a pill-box.

David Comley, the city's housing director, said his council had somehow had to perform miracles on a shoe-string budget.

"It cannot be expected to do so indefinitely, it is a patently ludicrous position and one with which the council and its tenants no longer have any ready years."

Ellen McGuire, who runs the Blackhill tenants' association from a flat in neighbouring Hogganfield street, just as awful as Craigendmuir street, said nothing had been spent in the area for almost 15 years because of lack of cash.

"We have been told that 80 new homes will be built in the next four years but as many as 320 tenement homes are due for demolition. We told the minister that that was just not good enough," she said.

The building programme, however, has left local people fearing that re-housed families will be spread all over the city, as had happened before.

Archaeology

Stone Age tools found at Kent reservoir site

By NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

MORE than 10,000 years of previously undocumented history have been recorded in a Kent valley due to be flooded before the end of the century.

Stone Age tools, Roman fields, a Saxon farm and medieval pottery kilns have all been discovered in the course of surveys and excavations by the Canterbury Archaeological Trust (CAT).

The upper course of the Sare Penn, a stream rising north-west of Canterbury and reaching the sea near Margate, will be dammed to provide a "strategic water storage facility" 1.5 miles long.

It will be filled by pumping water from the River Stour over the watershed, and will sit Professor Peter Fowler, archaeological consultant to

the project, have a totally controllable inflow.

Three water companies have formed a consortium to help solve the long-term water shortage in Kent and Sussex, and Professor Fowler and the CAT are taking a "proactive stance" by finding out as much as possible about the valley's history before the ninth century settlement is confirmed.

Geophysical surveys will add to the detailed plan of the site which may be excavated: the spur where it lies is destined to be bulldozed to form the dam.

Roman pottery, from the earliest years of the conquest in the first century AD down to the fourth century, has also been found on the spur, where human habitation is now

documented for nearly two thousand years.

This examination of an entire valley is needed, Professor Fowler said. "In order to make sure that the landscape is fairly dealt with before development, it is in the client's interests to comply with EC and Department of the Environment guidelines, and to have the entire area archaeologically inventoried and assessed."

"We have the time to carry out a long-term programme which is already showing that there were a whole series of landscapes here, not just those visible but others buried in the valley sediments. The environmental and human histories of the Sare Penn valley are very complex because they are totally interrelated."

Forthcoming marriages

Dr W. Aveling and Dr B.S.A. Duncan The engagement is announced between Wynne, elder son of Mr and Mrs E. Aveling, of Wensley Park, Gifford and Barbara, younger daughter of the late Dr M.N.S. Duncan and of Mrs E.E. Duncan, of Southsea.

Mr J.M. Baker and Miss S.E. Crossfield The engagement is announced between Max, only son of Mr and Mrs G.S. Baker, of Abinger Common, Surrey, and Sue, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs E.C. Crossfield, of Mersham, Surrey.

Mr G.J. Beazley and Miss E.C.P. Stephen The engagement is announced between Oliver, second son of Mr and Mrs Cecil Beazley, of Ashead, Surrey, and Fiona, elder daughter of the late Mr George Stephen and of Mrs Catherine Stephen, of Aberdeen.

Captain R.M. Duncan, MNI and Dr S. Pedersen The engagement is announced between Barry, elder son of Mr and Mrs George M. Duncan, of Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, and Sarah, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs David L. Pedersen, of The Knoll House, Hinckley Hill, Oxford.

Mr R.M.L. Lane and Miss E.C.P. Roberts The engagement is announced between Martin, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Alan Lane, of Northwood, Middlesex, and Emma, elder daughter of His Honour Judge and Mrs John Roberts, of Speen, Buckinghamshire.

Mr J. Nathan and Miss I.E. Finegan The engagement is announced between Saul, younger son of Mrs Valerie Nathan and the late Mr David Nathan, of Hampton, Middlesex, and Louise, daughter of Mr and Mrs Paul Finegan, of Highgate, London.

Dr M. O'Donnell and Mrs C. Naylor The marriage will take place on August 29, in Belfast, of Malcolm O'Donnell to Carol Naylor.

Mr E.B.L. Sowton and Miss E.P. Ladd The engagement is announced between Brian, elder son of Mr and Mrs M. Sowton, of Wincle, and Katherine, younger daughter of Mrs J. Lamb, of Cape Town, RSA, and Mr M. Lamb, of California, USA.

The marriage arranged between Lindsay Sally Deeming and Alastair David Walford, on September 5, 1992, will not take place.

Marriages

Mr B. Gethin-Hardy and Miss P. Heimann The marriage took place on Saturday, at All Saints Church, Colehill, of Mr Benjamin Gethin-Hardy to Miss Philippa Heimann.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Elizabeth Levinson, Lydia Roche, Rosamunde Daws and Maria Vieles.

A reception was held at Hertfordshire House, Colehill, and the couple will be living in Buxton.

Mr B. Lincoln and Miss J. Wojak The marriage took place on Tuesday, August 25, at Chelsea Register Office, of Mr Bryan Lincoln to Miss Jolana Wojak.

The marriage took place on July 29, 1992, in Abu Dhabi, UAE, between Mr Douglas Robson, elder son of Mrs Patricia Robson, of Whitley Bay, North Tyneside, and Sarah, daughter of Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs John Need, of Mins, Wiltshire.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Johann Wolfgang Goethe, the poet, Frankfurt am Main, 1749; Sir Edward Burne-Jones, painter, Birmingham, 1833; Sir Stanley Penny, evangelist, Edinburgh, Pennsylvania, 1840; George Whipple, pathologist, Nobel laureate, 1954; Ashland, New Hampshire, 1878; Sir John Betjeman, poet laureate, 1972-84, London, 1906.

DEATHS: Saint Augustine, Doctor of the Church, Hippo (Annaba, Algeria), 350; John Leyden, poet, Cornelius Djanetta, 1811; Leigh Hunt, essayist and poet, London, 1859; Prince William of Gloucester, killed in an air crash, 1972; John Huston, film director, 1987.

OBITUARIES: Sir Edward Burne-Jones, painter, Birmingham, 1833; Sir Stanley Penny, evangelist, Edinburgh, Pennsylvania, 1840; George Whipple, pathologist, Nobel laureate, 1954; Ashland, New Hampshire, 1878; Sir John Betjeman, poet laureate, 1972-84, London, 1906.

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OBITUARIES

THOMAS ROBSON

Thomas Snowdon Robson, CBE, former director of engineering for the Independent Broadcasting Authority, died on August 6, his 70th birthday.

IN THE latter stages of his career, Tom Robson played a significant role within the European and international broadcasting franchises in helping to formulate television engineering broadcasting policy. As director of engineering for the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA) he encouraged his development engineers during their work on the MAC system (the internationally-agreed transmission system for use with broadcast satellite television services) and championed, with success, the adoption of the system by the European Broadcasting Union. In 1984 he was awarded the Edward Rhein prize for the MAC development, an award he shared with Professor Bruck, the man who had invented the PAL colour system.

After attending Portsmouth Grammar School, Robson joined the BBC and then served in the technical branch of the RAF during the war. He joined the research laboratories of EMI in 1947 where he worked on the early development of UHF (ultra-high frequency) television transmitters. He joined the Independent Television Authority (ITA) in 1957 as the engineer-in-charge of the ITA's transmitting station at Black Hill in central Scotland. After a short period he moved to the ITA's London office and was the senior authority on television transmitters and ac-

rial systems. During this period he played an active role in the design and building of the ITA network of VHF transmitting stations and was part of the team that designed and developed the first automatic and remotely-controlled VHF television transmitting station in the UK.

The Right Rev Anthony Paul Tremlett, former Bishop of Dover, died after a fall in his garden on August 22 aged 78. He was born on May 14, 1914.

TONY Tremlett had the distinction of inspiring a religious vocation among the young as if it were the most natural outcome of life: 12 out of his many ordinands bought him his pastoral staff when he was consecrated Bishop of Dover in 1964.

Yet he was not an evangelical, holding firmly to the traditional Anglican rite and its language as being instruments appropriate for the twentieth century as for the seventeenth.

His talent as a boy singer had been spotted by the local organist and he went to school and sang as a treble in the choir at St George's Chapel, Windsor. His later education was at King's School, Bruton, and King's College, Cambridge, where he found his vocation.

Having trained for the priesthood at Cudgleton, he was ordained in 1938. A curacy at Northolt was interrupted by the war and he joined the 40th Division as an army chaplain with an emergency commission.

In 1943 he was attached to the 6th Guards Independent Brigade as chaplain to the 4th Battalion, Coldstream Guards. With them he was up with the fighting across northern France, starting in Normandy with the capture of Hill 309.

In 1978 he was appointed to the post of director of engineering at the ITA in 1973. During this period he directed the planning of the Channel 4 network of UHF television stations which resulted in 87 per cent of the UK being covered within the remarkably short period of three years.

In 1978 he was appointed to the post of director of engineering, a post he retained until his retirement in 1986.

Tom Robson was honoured over the years with members of the Institute of Electrical Engineers, the Radio Telefis Eireann and the British Kinematograph, Sound and Television Society. National honours were bestowed upon him — the MBE in 1964, OBE in 1970 and the CBE in 1986. Tom Robson brought enthusiasm, dedication and untiring energy to everything he tackled.

He had a Christian heart, and was ever ready to help others in times of their need, even when he himself was immersed in the stress and busting activity of his profession.

He leaves his wife, Ruth, a daughter and son.

RIGHT REV ANTHONY TREMLETT



with the wounded, dying and dead. "Trubshaw" as the guards officers called him, was mentioned in dispatches for bravery. The war brought many friendships including those of Robert Runcie and Bishop Fabian Jackson, his former vicar who took him as his domestic chaplain to Trinidad in 1946. There he experienced all the vigour and informality of the Caribbean church.

In 1949 he was appointed chaplain of Trinity Hall, Cambridge, and his vocation flourished in transmitting the

urgency and imminence of religious life in the last decade before student unrest changed undergraduate life irreversibly.

A man of catholic tastes, a lover of grand opera, with a sound knowledge of history and the fine arts, he became a familiar Cambridge figure. He had a connoisseur's knowledge of English oak and walnut furniture.

After nine years and with some hesitation, Tremlett came to St Stephen's, Rochester Row, a large London parish categorised by deep

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UK under fire from Brussels over border controls

FROM TOM WALKER IN BRUSSELS

BRITAIN'S refusal to lift all internal European border controls from January 1 has come under fire in the European Commission's latest review of the single market, embarrassing the government during its presidency of the European Community.

Officials close to Martin Bangemann, the German commissioner responsible for the internal market, have confirmed that the report, which goes before the Commission for approval next week, will make a specific reference to Britain's dispute with Brussels over the exact meaning of Article 8A of the Treaty of Rome. This says that people, as well as goods, services and capital, should be able to move freely across

the Community's internal frontiers.

The reference to the dispute puts paid to some press reports earlier this month that Herr Bangemann will allow Britain to retain its border controls, which the government says are necessary to check non-EC nationals. The reports lie in a file in the office of Herr Bangemann's spokesman with "denial" penned across them.

"Britain says it just wants to see passports, but that is too much for the Commission," one Bangemann aide said. The Commission's intransigence on the issue raises the question of whether Britain will eventually have to introduce identity cards.

"Maybe Britain will have to introduce a card system," the aide said. "Out of tradition, more than anything, Britain has kept its controls at ports of entry, but from next year that cannot happen if people are coming from elsewhere within the EC. Identity cards might be the price Britain has to pay."

News of the report's contents drew an agitated response from British officials in Brussels, who insisted that, despite the row over the movement of people, all customs and fiscal checks on goods entering Britain would disappear from January 1. "If that's what it says, then it's extraordinary," one official remarked. "I really thought we'd come on from those days."

The report, the seventh produced by the Commission on the internal market, departs from previous policy by specifically mentioning which governments are holding up the internal market's completion. As well as the trouble over article 8A, it says Britain and Spain must resolve their sovereignty dispute over Gibraltar.

Another British argument with the Commission highlighted is the government's suspicion of Brussels' plans for an EC company statute law. Under the plans, a German multinational, for example, could set up a subsidiary in Britain where workers would automatically have rights to management participation. The company would in no way be obliged to adapt to British company statutes.

Sarajevo casualties, page 11
Cultural genocide, page 12
Letters, page 13

Deal on Bosnia agreed

Continued from page 1
ceasefire, underpinned by political guarantees and the renunciation of force to change borders, was the main aim of the British and UN organisers of the conference. If it holds, it will be a triumph for John Major and Douglas Hurd, who were criticised for their timid approach in ruling out the use of force from the beginning.

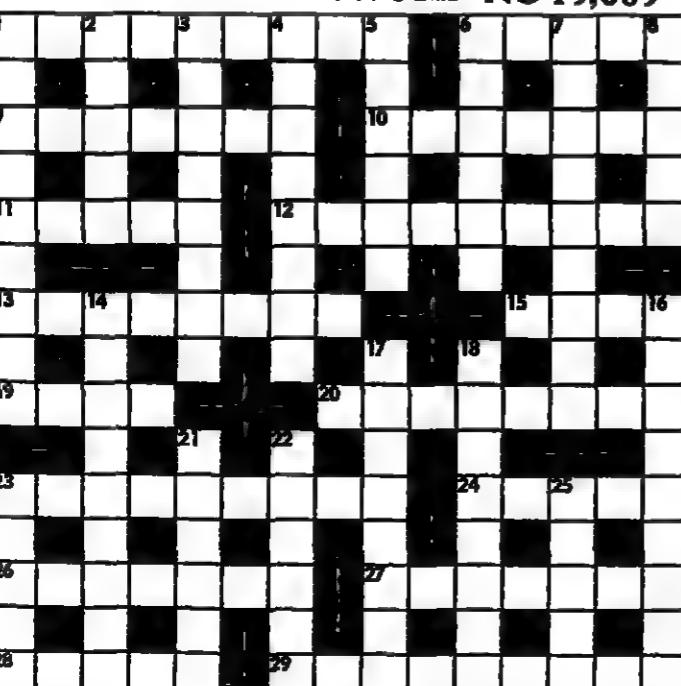
Negotiations were still going on yesterday on the other main objectives: the recognition of the federal state of Yugoslavia formed by Serbia and Montenegro, guarantees of full democratic rights for the Albanian majority in Kosovo and the restoration of working relations between Serbia and the other former Yugoslav republics.

Earlier yesterday, Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN secretary-general, announced a plan to strengthen the UN force in the region and widen its mandate so that it could better escort relief convoys. Dr Boutros Ghali said he intended to submit his proposal to the security council next week.

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THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,009



ACROSS
1 Contrapuntal music a college put on (9).
6 Dishonest business producing additional growth (5).
9 No hope of progress here, as has been might say (7).
10 Cider as mixed in cocktail (7).
11 Perfect, possibly? It's not easy (5).
12 Unimpeded spin to coast (4-5).
13 Severe setback in main section? Blast! (4-4).
15 Just off Oxford Street (4).
19 Advantage held by private (8).
20 Rook's request to private (8).
23 Report about what's inside Woormera - Aussie missile (9).
24 Old woman listened to letter from abroad (5).
26 Fare from Italy to southern Greek island (7).
27 Hard speech shortened in Shakespearean role (7).
Solution to Puzzle No 19,008

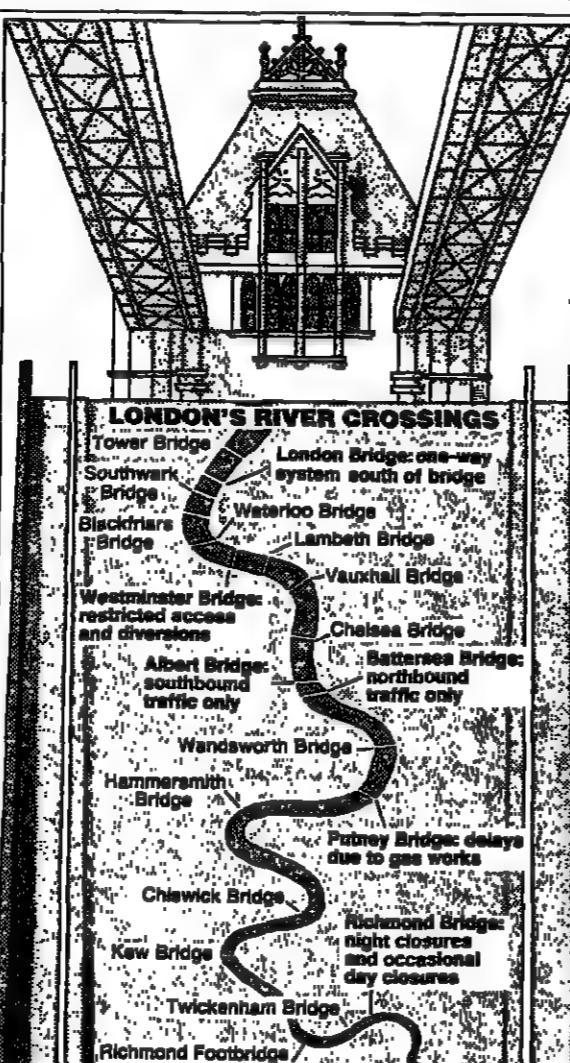
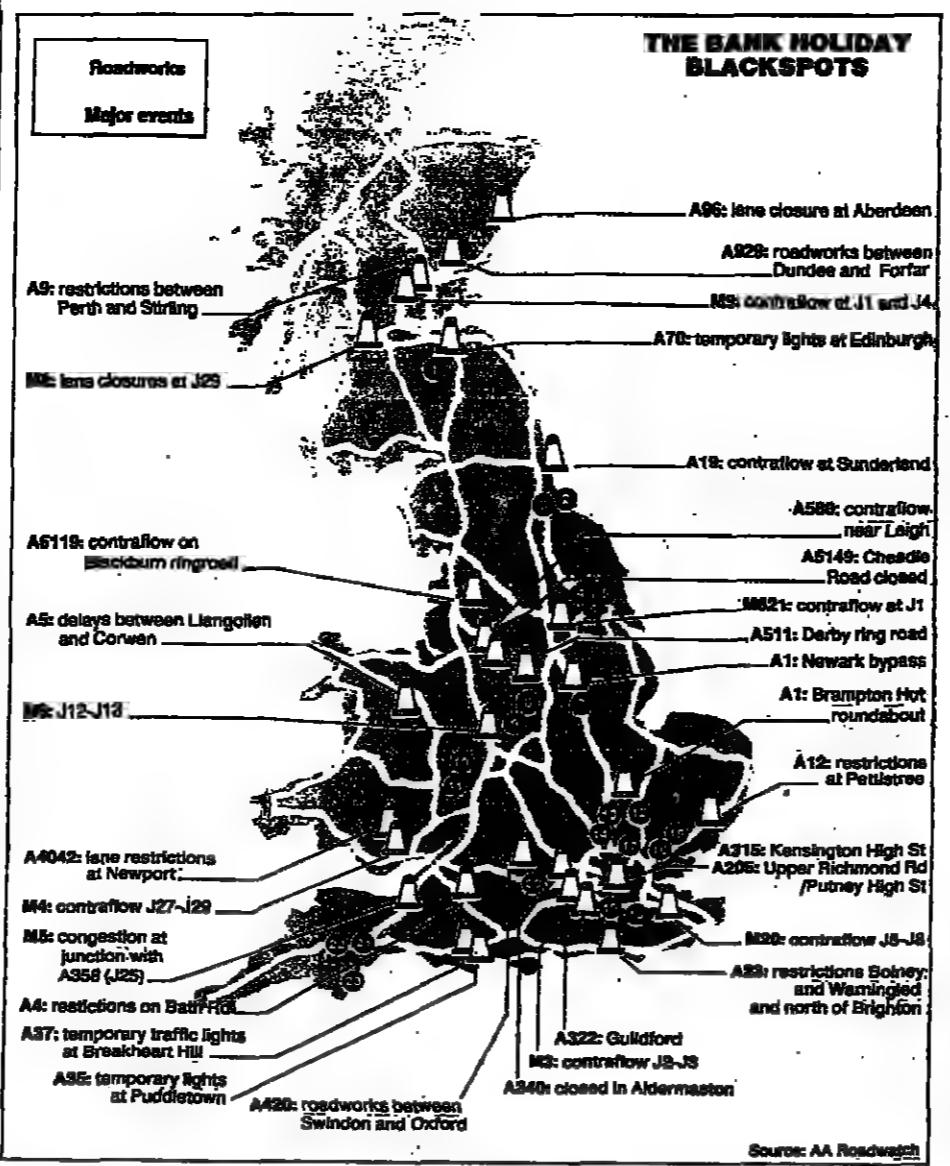
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Concise Crossword, page 7
Life & Times section



CROSSWORD WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which definitions are correct?
By Philip Howard

SAOACIDIC
a. Sweetened
b. Twitchy
c. Pertaining to a bag or sack

FUTHORC
a. A fierce sea-monster
b. The runic alphabet
c. A double-headed spear

QUARL
a. Quarrelled
b. The jollybilly

HEBETITUDE
a. Pertaining to wine-waking
b. Dullness, stupidity
c. Common sense

Answers on page 14

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WEATHER

Shower will spread to all but the South East. They will be heavy and prolonged at times, especially in the North and West, with the brightest weather east of the Pennines and Grampians. The South East will be cloudy for much of the day, with outbreaks of rain and showers by evening. Outlook: showers, heavy in places on Saturday. Rain will spread quickly from the south on Sunday.

WEATHER WATCH

MIDDAY: Thunder, lightning, 10-15pm, a-sun, 21-22pm, 23-24pm, 25-26pm, 27-28pm, 29-30pm, 31-32pm, 33-34pm, 35-36pm, 37-38pm, 39-40pm, 41-42pm, 43-44pm, 45-46pm, 47-48pm, 49-50pm, 51-52pm, 53-54pm, 55-56pm, 57-58pm, 59-60pm, 61-62pm, 63-64pm, 65-66pm, 67-68pm, 69-70pm, 71-72pm, 73-74pm, 75-76pm, 77-78pm, 79-80pm, 81-82pm, 83-84pm, 85-86pm, 87-88pm, 89-90pm, 91-92pm, 93-94pm, 95-96pm, 97-98pm, 99-100pm, 101-102pm, 103-104pm, 105-106pm, 107-108pm, 109-110pm, 111-112pm, 113-114pm, 115-116pm, 117-118pm, 119-120pm, 121-122pm, 123-124pm, 125-126pm, 127-128pm, 129-130pm, 131-132pm, 133-134pm, 135-136pm, 137-138pm, 139-140pm, 141-142pm, 143-144pm, 145-146pm, 147-148pm, 149-150pm, 151-152pm, 153-154pm, 155-156pm, 157-158pm, 159-160pm, 161-162pm, 163-164pm, 165-166pm, 167-168pm, 169-170pm, 171-172pm, 173-174pm, 175-176pm, 177-178pm, 179-180pm, 181-182pm, 183-184pm, 185-186pm, 187-188pm, 189-190pm, 191-192pm, 193-194pm, 195-196pm, 197-198pm, 199-200pm, 201-202pm, 203-204pm, 205-206pm, 207-208pm, 209-210pm, 211-212pm, 213-214pm, 215-216pm, 217-218pm, 219-220pm, 221-222pm, 223-224pm, 225-226pm, 227-228pm, 229-230pm, 231-232pm, 233-234pm, 235-236pm, 237-238pm, 239-240pm, 241-242pm, 243-244pm, 245-246pm, 247-248pm, 249-250pm, 251-252pm, 253-254pm, 255-256pm, 257-258pm, 259-260pm, 261-262pm, 263-264pm, 265-266pm, 267-268pm, 269-270pm, 271-272pm, 273-274pm, 275-276pm, 277-278pm, 279-280pm, 281-282pm, 283-284pm, 285-286pm, 287-288pm, 289-290pm, 291-292pm, 293-294pm, 295-296pm, 297-298pm, 299-300pm, 301-302pm, 303-304pm, 305-306pm, 307-308pm, 309-310pm, 311-312pm, 313-314pm, 315-316pm, 317-318pm, 319-320pm, 321-322pm, 323-324pm, 325-326pm, 327-328pm, 329-330pm, 331-332pm, 333-334pm, 335-336pm, 337-338pm, 339-340pm, 341-342pm, 343-344pm, 345-346pm, 347-348pm, 349-350pm, 351-352pm, 353-354pm, 355-356pm, 357-358pm, 359-360pm, 361-362pm, 363-364pm, 365-366pm, 367-368pm, 369-370pm, 371-372pm, 373-374pm, 375-376pm, 377-378pm, 379-380pm, 381-382pm, 383-384pm, 385-386pm, 387-388pm, 389-390pm, 391-392pm, 393-394pm, 395-396pm, 397-398pm, 399-400pm, 401-402pm, 403-404pm, 405-406pm, 407-408pm, 409-410pm, 411-412pm, 413-414pm, 415-416pm, 417-418pm, 419-420pm, 421-422pm, 423-424pm, 425-426pm, 427-428pm, 429-430pm, 431-432pm, 433-434pm, 435-436pm, 437-438pm, 439-440pm, 441-442pm, 443-444pm, 445-446pm, 447-448pm, 449-450pm, 451-452pm, 453-454pm, 455-456pm, 457-458pm, 459-460pm, 461-462pm, 463-464pm, 465-466pm, 467-468pm, 469-470pm, 471-472pm, 473-474pm, 475-476pm, 477-478pm, 479-480pm, 481-482pm, 483-484pm, 485-486pm, 487-488pm, 489-490pm, 491-492pm, 493-494pm, 495-496pm, 497-498pm, 499-500pm, 501-502pm, 503-504pm, 505-506pm, 507-508pm, 509-510pm, 511-512pm, 513-514pm, 515-516pm, 517-518pm, 519-520pm, 521-522pm, 523-524pm, 525-526pm, 527-528pm, 529-530pm, 531-532pm, 533-534pm, 535-536pm, 537-538pm, 539-540pm, 541-542pm, 543-544pm, 545-546pm, 547-548pm, 549-550pm, 551-552pm, 553-554pm, 555-556pm, 557-558pm, 559-560pm, 561-562pm, 563-564pm, 565-566pm, 567-568pm, 569-570pm, 571-572pm, 573-574pm, 575-576pm, 577-578pm, 579-580pm, 581-582pm, 583-584pm, 585-586pm, 587-588pm, 589-590pm, 591-592pm, 593-594pm, 595-596pm, 597-598pm, 599-600pm, 601-602pm, 603-604pm, 605-606pm, 607-608pm, 609-610pm, 611-612pm, 613-614pm, 615-616pm, 617-618pm, 619-620pm, 621-622pm, 623-624pm, 625-626pm, 627-628pm, 629-630pm, 631-632pm, 633-634pm, 635-636pm, 637-638pm, 639-640pm, 641-642pm, 643-644pm, 645-646pm, 647-648pm, 649-650pm, 651-652pm, 653-654pm, 655-656pm, 657-658pm, 659-660pm, 661-662pm, 663-664pm, 665-666pm, 667-668pm, 669-670pm, 671-672pm, 673-674pm, 675-676pm, 677-678pm, 679-680pm, 681-682pm, 683-684pm, 685-686pm, 687-688pm, 689-690pm, 691-692pm, 693-694pm, 695-696pm, 697-698pm, 699-700pm, 701-702pm, 703-704pm, 705-706pm, 707-708pm, 709-710pm, 711-712pm, 713-714pm, 715-716pm, 717-718pm, 719-720pm, 721-722pm, 723-724pm, 725-726pm, 727-728pm, 729-730pm, 731-732pm, 733-734pm, 735-736pm, 737-738pm, 739-740pm, 741-742pm, 743-744pm, 745-746pm, 747-748pm, 749-750pm, 751-752pm, 753-754pm, 755-756pm, 757-758pm, 759-760pm, 761-762pm, 763-764pm, 765-766pm, 767-768pm, 769-770pm, 771-772pm, 773-774pm, 775-776pm, 777-778pm, 779-7710pm, 781-782pm, 783-784pm, 785-786pm, 787-788pm, 789-7810pm, 791-792pm, 793-794pm, 795-796pm, 797-798pm, 799-7910pm, 801-802pm, 803-804pm, 805-806pm, 807-808pm, 809-8010pm, 811-812pm, 813-814pm, 815-816pm, 817-818pm, 819-8110pm, 821-822pm, 823-824pm, 825-826pm, 827-828pm, 829-8210pm, 831-832pm, 833-834pm, 835-836pm, 837-838pm, 839-8310pm, 841-842pm, 843-844pm, 845-846pm, 847-848pm, 849-8410pm, 851-852pm, 853-854pm, 855-856pm, 857-858pm, 859-8510pm, 861-862pm, 863-864pm, 865-866pm, 867-868pm, 869-8610pm, 871-872pm, 87



Sterling and dollar stabilise

French minister rules out ERM shake-up

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

MICHEL SAPIN, the French finance minister, yesterday threw his weight behind European efforts to reduce tensions within the exchange-rate mechanism (ERM) to avert the need for higher interest rates in defence of ERM parities.

He ruled out categorically any chance of an ERM realignment, making clear that neither Bonn, nor the Bundesbank, was calling for such a move.

Market uncertainty about the stance of the German central bank on realignment had partially undermined the British authorities' heavy intervention to lift the pound on Wednesday.

In remarks to reporters in Paris before a meeting of the deputy finance ministers, or "shepherds", of the Group of Seven leading economies, M Sapien said: "A monetary realignment within the European monetary system is not on the agenda and will not happen".

He spelled out that the joint policy intentions of ERM members were aimed at "maintaining current parities" as a fundamental element of stability. International co-operation had been "very active" in recent weeks.

Turning to the dollar, M

Sapien said the G7 countries would take more technical measures to prop up the American currency. "No G7 member wants the dollar to continue to weaken... on the contrary," he said, adding that a further dollar fall would harm monetary stability in America and Europe.

His remarks, which followed Wednesday's Bank of England intervention and a renewed pledge from Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, to hold sterling squarely in the ERM, lifted sterling and the dollar on Wednesday.

British money market rates eased, with the key three-month interbank rate closing at 10 1/16 per cent, down from 10 1/16. One-month money, down to 10 1/4 per cent, also indicated reduced fear of an imminent base rate hike.

But the pound's calmer day was not reflected throughout the ERM. The central banks of Italy, Spain and Portugal were forced to intervene in support of their currencies. Speculation that Italy was about to raise key interest rates was enough to soften the pound towards the London close. Sterling closed at DM2.7930, less than half a penny below its previous finish, having neared

DM2.80 during the morning.

This left the pound still a pfennig and a half above its absolute ERM floor. But the firmer dollar, which closed at \$1.9786, more than half a cent up on Wednesday, helped to nudge sterling's trade-weighted index down 0.2 to 91.1.

Share price moved ahead in key centres, reflecting the 1,013.35 point or 6.13 per cent rise in Japan's Nikkei average, a factor that gave the mark a weaker tone. The FT-SE 100 ended 26.6 points higher at 2,311.6.

Remarks by Theo Waigel,

the German finance minister, which were misread as a call for an immediate cut in German interest rates, caused only a brief flutter. While forecasting west German growth of up to 1.5 per cent this year, Herr

Waigel said Germany needed lower interest rates "in the medium term". For the whole

economy, he predicted real

growth of 2 to 2.5 per cent. He

said German exporters faced

difficulties because of the delay

in the international recovery

and the weak dollar.

Provisional German con-

sumer price data issued yester-

day showed annual inflation

up to 3.5 per cent, after four

months of declines. In July,

the annual rate slowed to 3.3

per cent. But the August

figures were heavily distorted

by a surge in rents in Hesse

and are unlikely to cause the

Bundeskasse whose main

concern remains excessive

money growth, much worry.

The G7 shepherds, who met

for a working dinner last night

before today's full meeting to

prepare for the finance minis-

ters' session next month, are

expected to focus on ways to

rein in the mark and revitalise

the fragile world economy.

Russia, which is seeking de-

ferred on its huge debt repay-

ments, will be represented at

the meeting by Alexander

Shokhina, deputy prime minis-

ter.

Guardian Royal Exchange,

which has less exposure esti-

mates its losses at \$12 million

to \$20 million. Royal In-

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should be capped at \$30

million, the point at which its

reinsurance kicks in. It esti-

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\$20 million.

Sun Alliance said it had a

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Corporation. Sun is still wait-

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Dealers wary despite leap in Tokyo share prices

FROM REUTER IN TOKYO

THE Tokyo stock market soared yesterday, with the key Nikkei average up 1,013.35 points, or 6.13 per cent, to 17,555.00, bringing it 3,245.59 points (22 per cent) off the 77-month low posted on Tuesday last week.

Each new surge is raising confidence that the Tokyo stock market's long slump has bottomed out, but analysts are keeping an eye on future hurdles.

Prices rallied after government moves to underpin confidence in the financial system, leading up to the stimulative economic package due today. But what happens thereafter is still a matter of debate.

"Everybody knows what is

in the economic package, and it is already discounted in prices," said Kenzo Doi of Kokusai Securities. "We will have a tougher time advancing afterwards."

Once the package is launched, it must still pass a special parliamentary session next month. In mid-September, the quarterly settlement of stock index futures is due.

The end of September marks the close of the fiscal year's first half and will feature changing forecasts of corporate profits, with actual results in October and November.

And the low profile of sellers at present will change as rising prices inevitably draw out profit-taking, analysts said.

The market has been exceeding the speed limit, and some people will want to cash out soon," one broker said.

The lack of selling is a key feature in the present surge.

Last Tuesday, the finance ministry urged institutional investors to restrict "easy" profit-taking in stocks before the fiscal half year to boost their financial results.

"Rising to this level was almost inevitable since so many people had to buy back oversold positions while institutions are under pressure not to sell," said a Yamaichi Securities trader.

Many traders are worried that pent-up selling could flood the market after the half-year's finish. "Picture a house, two walls and a triangular roof," said one Japanese brokerage trader. "We're going up one wall now, then we'll tip toe over the roof tiles before the fiscal half year to boost their financial results.

"We expect Nomura to post a current loss of about 15 billion yen for the fiscal half-year to September 30, 1992," said Linda Daquill, analyst at UBS Phillips and Drew.

She attributed the expected decline in profit to falling commission income due to sluggish market volume and a reserve fund set aside for this winter's bonuses.

"Even if market turnover does start to pick up, it's unlikely to go beyond a daily average volume of about 300 to 350 million shares in the rest of this fiscal year, rising to about 400 million in the next fiscal year," Ms Daquill said.

In May, Nomura and its rivals assumed volume would average 400 million this fiscal year and forecast modest profits all round. Volume has actually averaged about 270 million, but picked up significantly in the past week. The Nikkei average closed up 1,013.35 points, or 6.13 per cent, at 17,555.00 yesterday.

A Nomura spokesman said if the company posted a loss, it would be the first since September 1951.

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THE TIMES



Relief: Alan Bond looks forward to seeing his family again after being released from a Perth prison yesterday

Bond released as retrial ordered

FROM ROBERT COCKBURN IN SYDNEY

ALAN Bond, the bankrupt Australian businessman, was released from a Perth prison yesterday after an appeal court ordered his retrial for dishonesty charges.

Mr Bond, once the epitome of brash commercial success in Australia, was unshaven and looked haggard as he walked from Wooldoo Prison Farm, east of Perth, where he has spent 91 days. He was sentenced to two-and-a-half years for dishonesty charges.

Mr Bond, 54, who was not in court to hear the decision, was ordered to be released on \$A100,000 (£35,000) bail with a similar surety.

A press conference held in the road outside the prison gates came to an abrupt end

when Mr Bond broke down in tears as he spoke of seeing his family again.

His son John took him home in the family Mercedes. It is one of the few visible trappings of wealth that remain after his business empire collapsed under a massive burden of debt this year. However, liquidators are still scouring the world for possible evidence of diverted company funds.

Asked if prison life agreed with him, Mr Bond initially managed a wry grin, saying: "No, I wouldn't say it agrees with me. I don't agree with it, whichever way you like to go about it."

He repeated his trial plea of innocence: "I am very pleased

to be resolved, to be released. It does support what I have been saying. I was innocent of the charge in the first place, and the sentence was beyond any reasonable position that should have been imposed."

Becoming visibly distressed, Mr Bond said: "I'm now going home to spend some time with my family."

After a Royal Commission into corrupt deals between the state and big business in western Australia, Mr Bond was found guilty on May 29 this year of a dishonesty charge.

This related to his alleged concealment of a commission when he organised a rescue package for Rothwells, the failed West Australian mer-

chant bank, in 1987. His release was based on fresh evidence heard at this week's appeal, claiming that Laurie Connell, the Rothwells owner and a friend of Mr Bond's, gave false evidence at his trial. Mr Bond's new trial will be held on October 5.

Arriving at Perth airport yesterday, Mr Bond's former wife Eileen said: "I just heard. Thank God."

Mr Bond's former brewing media and property empire, Bond Corporation, was worth \$A10 billion at its peak but crumbled under a pile of debt. Mr Bond was declared bankrupt in April and his companies now operate under a scheme of arrangement with creditors.

Maple Leaf warns of lean second half

BY OUR CITY STAFF

MAPLE Leaf Foods, Canada's largest food-processing company 56 per cent owned by Hillsdown Holdings, warned that second-half results will be put under pressure by the cold summer, lower interest rates and continuing recession.

The upside is limited. The still-slowing economy and slumping corporate earnings cannot support valuations much higher than at present, analysts said. The most the Nikkei can hope for in the short term is 19,346, the level on March 31, at the end of the last fiscal year.

cents a share, payable from net earnings of 44 cents a share, up from 41 cents. Second-quarter net earnings were C\$20 million, against C\$17.1 million, on sales of C\$678.2 million, down from C\$808.5 million.

Charles Bowen, president and chief executive of Maple Leaf, said: "Although product development and strategic initiatives are expected to benefit the second-half performance, the company's results for the second half will be affected by the weakness in the economy, the poor summer weather and lower interest rates."

The dividend is held at 19

Property earnings boost Swire Pacific

FROM LULU YU IN HONG KONG

SWIRE Pacific, controlled by John Swire & Sons, a private London company, yesterday revealed net profits of HK\$2.18 billion (£142 million) for the six months to end June, up 101 per cent and well above market expectations.

The results include a one-off profit of HK\$631 million from the long-term leasing of an office tower under construction to the Hongkong Telecom group. Without this profit, Swire's earnings grew 43 per cent.

Peter Sutch, the chairman, said the strong profit growth resulted from much higher

property earnings. Swire is one of the colony's biggest landlords, with a portfolio of about 7.6 million sq ft of office, residential and retail space. The commercial market, which has softened in the past two years, showed signs of recovery.

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Smaller firms fight the recession with exports

SMALLER businesses are switching to exports to beat recession and are more than holding their own, according to a survey by the Royal Bank of Scotland. The quarterly survey showed that half of the 1,000 companies responding reported a rise in exports during the past 12 months, while only 31 per cent reported a decline.

The survey, taken at the end of July, showed that companies that have historically relied on the UK market for most of their sales have successfully switched to export markets and are confidently expecting to further improve their performance. The greatest improvement in export performance was by companies in the North and Scotland. About a third of the companies employed fewer than ten people and another third employed ten to 50. But there are no surprises in the target areas for exports.

Fairfax tops forecast

JOHN Fairfax, the Australian newspaper group, earned A\$15.5 million (£5.6 million) for the half year to end-June, more than the A\$12 million predicted in the prospectus for its re-listing. Operating revenues of A\$357.52 million beat the forecast by 1.6 per cent. The result is the first since the December 1991 takeover by a consortium led by Conrad Black, owner of the *Daily Telegraph*. On a four-year basis, including the December half when Fairfax was controlled by a receiver, profit before interest, tax and abnormal losses from A\$117.3 million to A\$128.9 million.

Monument declines

TIM Melville-Ross, chief executive of the Nationwide Building Society, has joined the board of Monument Oil and Gas. The oil explorer yesterday reported a fall in net income from £3.65 million to £1.9 million for the half year to end-June. Operating profits rose from £1.67 million to £2.3 million, largely due to a contribution from the Harrier field in Australia. But a fall in interest receivable from £2.94 million to £1.1 million hit profits at the pre-tax level. Monument said lower interest rates and spending on exploration were both responsible. The shares fell 2p to 334p.

BICC expands overseas

BICC, the cables and construction group, is buying the North American cables business of Reynolds Metals for about £38 million in cash. Reynolds Cables makes power cables. BICC said the similarities between the two groups provide an opportunity for "major cost reductions" through rationalisation". Robin Biggam, BICC's chairman, said: "This acquisition significantly strengthens our established position as the leading power cable company in North America. It broadens our product line, our customer base and the geographic scope of our manufacturing operations."

Cattle's up at half time

CATTLE'S, a consumer credit group, increased pre-tax profits by 35 per cent from £3.87 million to £5.23 million, in the six months to June 30, but warned that growth would slow in the second half. The interim dividend is increased from 1.5p to 1.6p. In March, Cattle's raised £7.5 million to reduce borrowings by floating Rosebys, a curtain and linen stores group, on the stock market. Cattle's retains a 45 per cent interest in Rosebys. At the half-year, group borrowings were down from £76 million to £57 million and the interest charge was £3.55 million (£3.9 million).

Mayflower advances

MAYFLOWER, a former conglomerate that has been restructured as a specialist engineering company, increased taxable profits from £12,000 to £1.58 million in the six months to June 26 and is returning to the dividend list, paying an interim 4p. The recovery reflects the first full contribution from Motor Panels, a vehicle design, engineering and truck cab manufacturer acquired from receivers last September. Manufacturing contributed operating profits of £1.59 million, against £95.000 last time. Services, soon to be sold, earned £13,000, down from £74,000.

New York failures soar

BUSINESS failures in Manhattan soared 110 per cent in the first half of this year, bringing the number in the New York area to 4,000, more than eight times higher than the first year of the recession in 1989. Just over 2,000 businesses failed in the first half of last year, according to Dun & Bradstreet. Retail, property and clothing companies accounted for the largest share. Retailers account for one in five New York businesses, but they made up a third of the failures.

Slough wins applause by cutting interim dividend

TEMPOS



Sparkling results: Ron Garrick of Weir, where profits rise despite the recession

least it has a profitable life assurance arm to help it through the gloom, and at least it will sharply improve its balance sheet once 49 per cent of profit-making Hambro Legal Protection is sold back to the ultimate parent (Hambros Plc) for £9 million.

HC, through its 480 estate agents, experienced a small upturn in the housing market in June and July, which demonstrates that only a modest improvement can have a dramatic impact on profits. But HC last made profits in 1988. In the latest six months to end-June, HC reports a £4.64 million pre-tax loss (£4.26 million loss) and is paying only an 0.05p a share dividend to retain trustee status.

HC retains 51 per cent of Hambro Legal Protection, for which it paid Hambros £3 million in 1989, and is clearly putting itself in better financial shape to absorb all the life assurance arm of Hambro. Guardian Assurance once contractual arrangements with GRE end in September 1993.

There is no early prospect of earnings, nor, therefore, of respectable dividends, and estimates of HC's real net worth can only be notional. But Hambros Plc is solidly behind HC, and on the presumption that, one day, profits will return, the shares' at 22p are not entirely without interest.

Hambro

ANY company waiting for lower base and mortgage rates and a brisk housing market before it can step back into profits looks like having a long, long wait ahead.

Hambro Countrywide is such a company, though at

Daf reduces losses and enters talks on joint production

By ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

DAF, the Dutch lorry-builder, has begun talks with a would-be partner aimed at securing joint design and production of vehicles, and an injection of cash in exchange for equity.

The company, which has half its manufacturing capacity in Britain, confirmed that talks were in progress with an unnamed group after announcing reduced losses of 97.4 million guilders (£30.5 million) in the half to June 30.

Mercedes-Benz of Germany denied interest in taking a stake in Daf. However, it said the companies had held discussions about "synergies" in component supplies and marketing. Daf declined to say whether the talks with Mercedes were those referred to in its statement. The com-

pany appears to be close to agreement with the Dutch and Belgian governments that each will underwrite a loan of about F100 million to help restore a balance sheet depleted by two years of losses.

Daf said another 1,000 non-manufacturing jobs would go over the next 18 months. The company shed 368 employees during the first half, reducing the payroll to 13,045.

Other lorry manufacturers that could be interested in co-operation with Daf include Nissan of Japan, which has a plant building light trucks and vans in Spain. Other possible partners are MAN of Germany and America's Paccar.

In a statement accompanying its half-year results, Daf said it sought a "strategic alliance" that would enable it to retain its identity. "These discussions could lead to a structural strengthening ... on the basis of mutual participation in products, product development and the production process." A strengthening of the equity position was also being considered.

In Britain, Daf's share of the lorry market rose to 24.8 per cent, and in the Netherlands and Belgium it also improved, to 30.2 per cent and 16.1 per cent.

The strongest progress, however, was in Germany, a market four times as large as Britain, where Daf increased its share from 1.5 to 2.4 per cent. Overall, revenues fell by 2.9 per cent to F12.18 billion, largely because of lower sales of special products and spares.

Daf said profits remained under pressure. It expected to break even in the second half.

Mixed fortunes at Renault and Volvo

By WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU

Cannon Street Investments, the troubled mini-conglomerate, has been hit by a new accounting standard on goodwill that has sent pre-tax losses at the halfway stage spiralling to £21.5 million. The group made an operating loss for the six months to end-June of £2.1 million, against a £9.8 profit last year, but exceptional profits on disposals took the outcome before the goodwill transfer to a £1.9 million profit.

However, under the newly introduced Financial Reporting Standard 2, the group must transfer goodwill written off to reserves relating to disposals to the profit and loss account. The resulting charge of £23.4 million was responsible for the large bottom-line loss.

The transfer has not affected shareholders' funds. Turnover fell from £141.5 million to £127 million. There is no interim dividend (3.3p). The company said that while funds raised from the disposals had reduced borrowings from £92.4 million to £55.3 million, the continuing operations have continued to incur losses.

Start-ups are still popular

People are still keen to start small businesses despite the recession, according to National Westminster Bank estimates.

The number of people contacting local enterprise agencies (LEAs) rose 30 per cent in the first quarter of the year compared with the last three months of 1991.

NatWest's estimates are based on 4,500 interviews conducted by managers seconded as business counsellors to LEAs. The number of people intending to use redundancy money to start businesses rose 11 per cent over the last quarter of 1991.

Cowie buys

T Cowie bought 7 per cent of the shares in Henlys Group and says it now owns, or has received acceptances for, 28.4 per cent of Henlys. Cowie's hostile bid for Henlys closes on Tuesday.

Trust rises

Scottish Eastern Investment Trust's pre-tax income rose from £6.5 million to £7.7 million in the six months to the end of July and the interim dividend goes up from 0.46p to 0.5p.

Recession weeds out errant directors

By PATRICIA TEHAN

CONVICTIONS against company directors soared in the year to end-March and are likely to continue climbing as penalties are toughened and recession pushes more companies into insolvency.

According to the September issue of the Institute of Directors' magazine, *Director*, the number of complaints, investigations and prosecutions against directors all rose. The number of directors successfully prosecuted, either after statutory investigations by the trade department or after official receivers' reports, rose from 301 to 337 in the year to end-March.

Of these, 31 resulted from a DTI investigation, compared with 20 the previous year, and 306 followed a report by an official receiver after insolvency, against 281. The number of custodial sentences that followed a DTI investigation more than doubled from seven to 16, while criminal prosecutions after an official receiver's report showed a 20 per cent rise in convictions to 40 directors.

Andrew Hutchinson, principal re-

search executive at the IoD, blames the rise on the recession-related increase in the number of company insolvencies.

He said this was the first recession where there had been an automatic review of the behaviour of directors after insolvency. He estimates the number of directors disqualified under the Insolvency Act is running at 300 a year.

The Insolvency Act of 1986 increased directors' personal liability for wrongful trading and the Company Directors Disqualification Act of 1986 increased the number of directors disqualified or found unfit to practise as directors.

The *Director* says the legal minefield for directors has been extended by about 40,000 European Community regulations, which, in addition to Community laws, "are heavily weighted towards the consumer".

Mr Hutchinson gave warning of the growing amount of litigation against directors when their companies commit offences under the Health and Safety at Work Act where, he says, "directors themselves have penalties brought

against them", ranging from fines to disqualification.

Tom Nash of the *Director* pointed to the recent Offshore Safety Installations Act, relating principally to oil rigs, which came into effect in March and increased the maximum fine that can be imposed by a magistrate from £2,000 to £20,000.

The *Director* says the number of offences with which a director can be charged is enormous. The Companies Act details more than 200 possible offences and, according to the magazine, the Health and Safety Commission's stricter policing "could lead to unending litigation".

Mr Nash said pressure from employees and consumers had led to a greater tendency for prosecutions.

Britain, he added, is "going more the way of the US", with penalties toughening and fines increasing.

Ironically, the IoD this week revealed plans to study the competence of directors.

It hopes the study will provide company chairmen with a method of evaluating potential board directors.



Marking time: Albrecht Eckell (left) and Max Dietrich Kley of BASF grapple with rising costs that leave doubts about a real upturn in profits

German earnings hit by mark

SOME of Germany's leading companies gave notice yesterday that the strong mark is hitting exports and foreign earnings, as corporate profits begin to level off after years of strong growth. (Wolfgang Münchau writes).

Daimler-Benz, Europe's largest industrial group and flagship of German industry, has downgraded its profit forecast for this year, despite a surprisingly strong performance in the first half.

The motor, defence and electronics group reported a 16 per cent rise in net profits to DM1.02 billion — better than had been anticipated by the markets — but the performance was due mainly to a 17 per cent fall in the tax charge.

The company said profits for the whole year would remain at last year's level of DM1.96 billion, while pre-tax profits were expected to fall.

Mameemann, the engineering company, last week reported an 89 per cent fall in profits, for which the company blamed the high mark exchange rate among other factors.

BASF, one of the world's top chemical companies, said "the development of the dollar's exchange rate in the last few weeks" would add to the pressure, after reporting a fall in pre-tax profits from DM1.55 billion to DM970 million for the first half.

The company said: "Rising staff costs, and especially rising costs for environmental protection as well as a fall-off in business in the summer holiday months, leave little hope for fundamental improvement in the earnings situation."

Volkswagen, the third largest German company to report results yesterday, appeared the most optimistic, despite a fall in operating profits and parent net profits. Group net profits for the first six months were below analysis' expectations, at DM 445 million compared to DM433 million previously.

Market share in Germany during the first seven months of the year rose from 26.6 per cent to 28.7 per cent, ahead of General Motors, its closest competitor, whose share fell from 18.1 per cent to 16.7 per cent. VW remains optimistic on the assumption of an improvement in worldwide car sales in 1993.

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Rival managers' groups to bid for Coal subsidiary

By OUR INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

TWO rival management-led consortia are drawing up plans to bid for Coal Products, a British Coal subsidiary with interests including smokeless fuel, building products and schemes to generate power from landfill gas. Three outside groups are believed to be interested in parts of the company.

Approaches for the business, which had annual sales of £157 million in the year to March, have been invited as part of British Coal Corporation's efforts to reshape itself before privatisation.

The emergence of rival management groups interested in the fuels business, which accounts for 90 per cent of turnover and most employees, puts the trade unions in a dilemma. They have been promised financial help by Tim Eggar, the energy minister, to form bidding consortia

involving employees, but had a duty to get as much for Coal Products as possible. "If somebody makes a satisfactory offer for the whole company we could not ignore it, but I believe we are likely to get better value for the businesses separately," he said.

In total, five groups have exchanged confidentiality agreements with British Coal after expressing an interest in all or part of the business, according to a report in the newsletter *Coal UK*.

Coal Products has almost 1,000 employees but numbers will be slimmed to 600 this year when the closure of the Avenue works at Chesterfield, Derbyshire, which makes Sunbrite fuel, is completed.

The closure will reduce annual sales to about £120 million and is expected to return Coal Products to a healthy level of profitability.

Hamburg yard to repair QE2

By A CORRESPONDENT

THE luxury liner QE2, laid up after running aground off the American coast three weeks ago, will cross the Atlantic to Hamburg for repairs. Cunard, its owner, said yesterday.

The company said Blohm & Voss, the Hamburg shipyard, was chosen from several bidders on the grounds of cost and speed at which the work could be completed.

Temporary repairs to the ship's keel and hull are being carried out in Boston before she sails to Hamburg. Cunard executives would not publicly put a price on the repairs but sources in Boston set the cost at about £15 million.

The liner is expected to return to service for a seven-day cruise starting on October 4. An official investigation into the grounding ended yesterday.

Hambros arm declines



CHRISTOPHER Sporborg, chairman of Hambros Countywide, the estate agency and insurance group, says most of HCs business will continue to fall short of a satisfactory return until the housing market is revived.

HC's results showed a net loss, including financial income and expenses, of Kr103 million (£10 million), compared with profits of Kr1.16 billion in the same period last year.

The operating loss widened from Kr559 million to Kr835 million. Volvo's results reflect the difficulties of the Swedish market in the first half of the year.

Tempus page 18

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STOCK MARKET

London takes heart from Tokyo surge

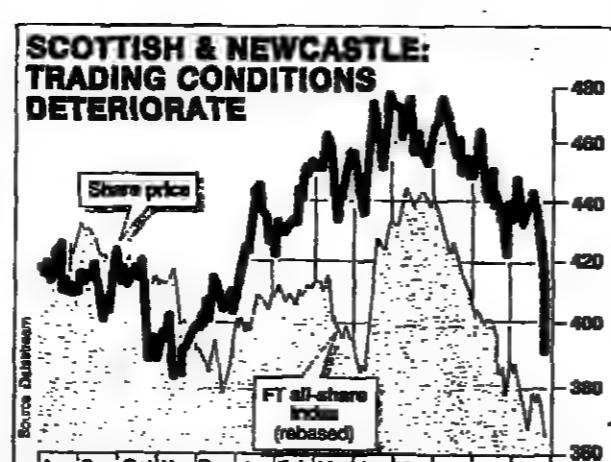
SHARE prices enjoyed a strong, technical rally, drawing strength from a thousand-point surge overnight in Tokyo and a confident performance on Wall Street. The FT-SE 100 index opened sharply higher, making a concerted effort to claw back some of this week's substantial

end. They are under no illusions about current difficulties, describing yesterday's events as just another rally in a bear market. Most traders are convinced that the market still has further to fall.

But with the financial futures market also enjoying a new lease of life and conditions on the foreign exchanges proving less volatile than of late, most of them were content to hang on for the ride.

Many of the shares hardest hit during the past few days were treated in a mark-up with English China Clays adding 10p to 452p after touching 457p, and Hillsdown Holdings rising 4p to 99p. Brokers said some investors had taken the view that their recent falls had been overdone.

Among the leaders, Glaxo jumped 19p to 710p on reports that the American Food and Drug Administration, the chairman, told shareholders at the annual meeting that trading conditions in the domestic markets had deteriorated further, which was of great concern to the group. The slump, which had badly hit the South East, was now also spreading to the North and



tested that will challenge Retrovir, its anti-Aids treatment.

The drinks sector remained out of favour, with Scottish & Newcastle tumbling 29p to 390p after Sir Alastair Rankin, the chairman, told shareholders at the annual meeting that trading conditions in the domestic markets had deteriorated further, which was of great concern to the group. The slump, which had badly hit the South East, was now also spreading to the North and

losses. After rising by 32.5 points, the index closed 26.6 points up at 2,311.6. But turnover remained thin with only 474 million traded. Dealers said that the market may be hard pressed to extend the rally today, with few investors willing to open fresh positions before the bank holiday week-

talk that a rival drug is being

GOVERNMENT securities experienced another volatile session, with an early lead wiped out as the market continued to worry about the mounting pressure for a rise in base rates. Prices at the longer end endured a turnaround of almost a full point after an early bout of short-covering dried up and the sellers again appeared. The long bond touched 955/16 in the futures market before closing 16p lower at 944/16. Volume was again heavy, with about 50,000 contracts completed.

Brokers said that the latest German inflation figures were disappointing, putting the pound under pressure again.

Among the longs, Treasury 84 per cent, 2017 finished 17 ticks lower at 955/16, while in the shorts, Exchequer 124 per cent, 1999 fell 10 ticks to £110/16.

Scot. Alastair's message was echoed by Simon Redman, chairman of Greene King, the rival drinks group. He said there was no sign of an upturn and that, if anything, trading conditions had deteriorated still further. But he added that beer volumes had grown and the group had increased its market share. The shares finished 21p lower at 421p.

Earlier this week, Grand Metropolitan warned the market that pre-tax profits in the

current year were likely to be about the £950 million made last year. Analysts had been looking for a final figure of about £1.1 billion, but the group says there are no signs of an upturn in Britain or America. The shares rallied 5p to 389p.

Alled Lyons lost an early lead to finish all-square at 556p, while losses were recorded in Bass, 9p to 488p, Boddingtons, 2p to 161p, and Whitbread, 4p to 373p. But there was selective support for the regional brewers with Burtonwood up 8p at 128p, Greensells, 2p to 339p, and Vaux Group 5p to 158p.

BZW repeated its cautious view of the property sector, worried by the impact of further interest rate rises. It is reckoned to have singled out Land Securities, 1p earlier at 356p, and MEPC, 2p firmer at 227p. But an early markdown on the back of BZW's comments attracted the bargain-hunters and prices closed off the bottom. There was selective support for British Land, up 2p to 152p and Sloane Estates, 6p to 95p.

But there was little cheer for the tour operators, with Warburg Securities reckoned to have turned a seller of Airtours, down 7p at 190p and Owners Abroad, 1p lighter at 62p. It is estimated that of 30 million holiday packages on offer this year, only 10 million have been sold. BP climbed 7p to 389p.

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MICHAEL CLARK

BRITISH FUNDS

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the tour operators, with Warburg Securities reckoned to have turned a seller of Airtours, down 7p at 190p and Owners Abroad, 1p lighter at 62p. It is estimated that of 30 million holiday packages on offer this year, only 10 million have been sold. BP climbed 7p to 389p.

Alled Lyons lost an early lead to finish all-square at 556p, while losses were recorded in Bass, 9p to 488p, Boddingtons, 2p to 161p, and Whitbread, 4p to 373p. But there was selective support for the regional brewers with Burtonwood up 8p at 128p, Greensells, 2p to 339p, and Vaux Group 5p to 158p.

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Without profit in the sombre 1990s

Guardian Royal Exchange may have been premature in its sombre view that the days of the traditional with-profit insurance policy are numbered. But the insurer has highlighted an issue that more of its rivals and the whole of the long-term investment industry must confront if inflation and economic growth remain low for some time. In a low growth, low inflation economic environment spectacular long-run rates of return offered by equity investment will simply not be available to support high reversionary and terminal bonuses which have become a regular feature of the insurance industry. That will not suit the more aggressive marketing men in the industry who have become used to selling their wares with optimistic long-term projections of history. They and their customers, who are most likely to be burned in any process of adjustment, should recall the words of the first Henry Ford.

The FT ordinary share index is still well over ten times the level it reached when Burmah Oil went bust in early 1975. The subsequent spectacular growth in the British equity market paved the way for booming returns on all manner of equity-based products. It was relatively easy for the life industry to get away with optimistic projections both internally and for marketing purposes. In the recession hit 1990s the equity market has gone nowhere. According to new research from UBS Phillips & Drew, the implications for the insurance industry may be substantial.

Testing a number of "what-if" possibilities produces the prospect of equity returns broadly the same or worse than those expected from the gilt-edged markets. If real interest rates remain high and real growth and inflation turn out at the lowest end of the expected range, gilts could continue to outperform equities for another five years says the broker. There is a limit to the extent that bonus declarations based on past expectations can continue to be met from reserves. The process of life in the low growth 1990s could be painful for life salesmen and even for those who have opted for endowment mortgages.

New look Lloyd's

Something strange is happening at Lloyd's. People are starting to think of it as an insurance market once again, rather than Britain's longest running force. The Lloyd's names being quoted in the past few weeks are professional underwriters giving their expert views on the cost of Hurricane Andrew, not aggrieved dissidents venting their spleen. That is not to say that the Lloyd's slate has been wiped clean or that the dissidents did not have a justified case. On the contrary, although Lloyd's may not like to admit it, the painful and highly publicised confrontations of the past two years may just have saved the market from extinction.

The final acts of this great City saga are being played out this weekend. This afternoon, a collective sigh of relief will echo round the room as the expected majority vote on the EGM ballot resolution backing the Council is confirmed. Other resolutions are likely to be used by loss-making names to register protests at the way in which their affairs at Lloyd's have been run in recent years. That is their right and the expressions of discontent should be carefully noted by the new generation of Council members due to take their seats next year.

The other impending announcement from Lloyd's is the final tally of resignations from the market. All the signs are that, come the August 31 deadline, these will be much lower than feared. With the capital base apparently secured, David Rowland, the incoming chairman, can get to grips with his two top priorities: further reform of the market and a resolution of the LMX spiral fiasco.

Tony Hetherington
takes a look at the
compensation process,
launched in 1988, to
help clients of the
investment industry

The Investors Compensation Scheme (ICS), which was established in 1988 to come to the aid of clients of corrupt or mismanaged investment businesses, enters its fifth year this week with all the appearances of being sorely in need of aid itself.

Claims in the past year have more than trebled, from £11 million in 1990-1 to an estimated £37 million for the year to March. The scheme has lost the insurance cover that picked up the bill once the claims for one year topped £25 million. And Fimbra, the watchdog body that monitors independent financial advisers and accounts for by far the largest number of claims, is quite unable to meet its contribution to the compensation fund.

Couple these internal factors with outside criticism that the scheme is too limited, too harsh in its interpretation of its rules, and too open to misconception by the public as a provider of blank cheques, and it is little or no wonder that the ICS is undergoing a fundamental review that may well see it emerge as the operator of something more akin to the anti-terrorist levy imposed on airport users.

The scheme was introduced as a natural consequence of the Financial Services Act 1986. If firms in the financial services industry were to be licensed and regulated, the argument went, then their clients should be reassured that if their money was mismanaged, or the manager emptied the till and fled to Brazil, the industry itself would come to the rescue.

The rescue was not without its limitations, though. In the first place, the ICS itself had to declare formally that a firm was in default. This might involve lengthy investigations. Then, payments were restricted to 100 per cent of the first £30,000 invested, plus 90 per cent of the next £20,000 — so no one investor could receive more than £48,000. And the total cost of the scheme was not to exceed £100 million a year.

The ceiling of £48,000 on individual claims has "attracted" regular criticism. Jean Eaglesham, a financial specialist with the Consumers' Association, said: "We have consistently said that the limit should be index-linked, year on year. We are looking for £100,000 as a starting point. That does not necessarily mean paying out 100 per cent of £100,000; there could be some tapering. But that level is a realistic reflection of the amounts people invest".

Her view is supported by Eversheds' Alexander Tatham, a Manchester firm of solicitors that has carved a niche for itself in handling claims for investor compensation.



Investors' best friend: Richard Lawson, ICS's new chairman, faces about 1,500 claims in the pipeline

Antony Gold, a partner in the firm, believes the £48,000 cap on claims has become seriously out of line with reality.

"People investing on retirement have often accumulated sums substantially in excess of this," he said. "There seems no good reason why a cap of that level should be in operation, other than, of course, the difficulties in getting members of the self-regulatory organisations to agree to it being raised." The self-regulatory organisation most often mentioned as opposing any increase in the limit on claims is Fimbra. Last year, Fimbra instigated a High Court case to establish whether the compensation scheme was obliged to meet claims from people who invested before August 1988, when the final stages of the Financial Services Act took effect.

A grey area had existed, catching people who had invested after December 1986, when only the early stages of the Act applied. The result of the High Court action was not clear cut. Some early investors have been covered, and some have not. Much depends on whether there was continuing advice and management.

rather than an isolated contact between investor and adviser.

The Consumers' Association was shocked at the verdict. Ms Eaglesham said: "We were appalled. The Securities & Investments Board had actually stated that you did not need to bed-and-breakfast your investments to be covered. That advice turned out to be plain wrong. We would like to see the position put back by statute to what everyone thought it

investors in doubt as to whether they are covered by the scheme should consider a bed-and-breakfast deal — selling their investments and buying them back next day to get a current date on the contract note.

Patrick Brennan, deputy chairman of ICS, said: "At least renew the investment advice. It is in investors' interests to get that renewed so it falls within the period of the scheme."

As claims rise, and levi's on firms

in the financial services industry rise to meet them, ICS officials privately express grave doubt about the structure of the scheme and the industry's ability to go on putting its hand in its pocket when a new scandal or bankruptcy arises. Only a minority of high profile cases hit the headlines.

Robert Miller, jailed for six years after stealing £1 million from clients of Dunsdale Securities, his Park Lane company, has so far cost the scheme more than £4 million in compensation payments. But for every Dunsdale, there are a dozen or more small firms that simply go broke out of the public eye, leaving debts of six figures or less.

Each levy imposed on the remaining financial companies makes it

"Each levy on the remaining financial companies makes it more likely that they in turn will fail, or simply leave the industry"

was, and what the SIB advised it was: that if you had your money with an authorised firm when the scheme began, you were covered."

Officials of the ICS itself are not unsympathetic. There is evidence that in some instances they have found ways to compensate investors whose claims might have failed under a rigid interpretation of the High Court ruling.

They do now advise, though, that

more likely that they in turn will fail, or simply leave the industry. The current year is likely to be the last in which the present system of covering compensation costs persists.

Patrick Brennan said: "There is an awareness that the basis for financing the compensation scheme is unsatisfactory. In the end, the ordinary investor has to pay. He may do so through paying higher commission rates and higher charges, or he may do so by some alternative to be devised, where there is a surcharge made whenever an investment transaction takes place."

Godfrey Jilling, Fimbra's chief executive, has been lobbying hard for changes that will take some of the burden from the shoulders of his members. He said: "At the moment, you have a system which falls unfairly on the independent financial adviser."

"We have had some support in the past two years from the insurance industry, which has made a contribution to cover anything above the first £5 million which IFAs have had to pay. That has been a statesmanlike and responsible approach from the insurance industry. We have always maintained that you should actually skin a fraction off all new business. My calculations are that it would be somewhere between 10p and 30p per £1000 of product cost."

Since the life companies' unit trust managers and so on are unlikely to want to dip into their profits, such a skimming will clearly involve an increase in the retail price of investment products at a rate of 10%.

There are few signs that Richard Lawson, appointed chairman of the scheme on August 1, will find the workload diminishing. Twelve investment businesses have been declared in default since the ICS drew up its last accounts. Still in the pipeline are an expected 1,500 claims from mainly elderly people who were sold equity-linked home income plans, a form of mortgage investment that has backfired expensively.

Mr Jilling makes the point that when he laid the foundations for the Financial Services Act, Professor Jim Gowen recommended that compensation funding should be spread evenly across the industry, and ultimately financed by the ordinary investor. Neither of these two proposals came to pass, he complains.

"At the end of the day, we want a scheme which is robust and well funded," he says. "At the same time, it is also down to regulators like me to ensure that there are few claims on the compensation scheme by more effective regulation."

If, when the review of ICS funding is complete, the ordinary investor does face an identifiable levy whenever buying a few unit trusts, it is unlikely the man in the street will be happy with anything less than near-perfection in policing the financial services sector. And that could well lead to renewed calls for a securities and exchange commission, government funded and with widespread powers, which would sweep away the very self-regulatory organisations that generated the compensation scheme in the first place.

THE TIMES



CITY DIARY

McKinnon to join Citibank

NEIL McKinnon, chief economist and head of investment strategy at Yamaichi, surprised his Japanese bosses yesterday afternoon by handing them his letter of resignation. McKinnon, one of the best known and most popular of all the City's economists, has accepted an offer of a job from the American giant Citibank, as its principal European spokesman on currency, interest rates and economic strategy. He is due to take up the new post on September 28 and in doing so will replace Paul Cherkow, who left Citibank two months ago to join UBS Phillips & Drew. "This is a very important appointment for us," says McKinnon's new boss, Julian Simmonds. "It is a very customer-driven job and yes, we did make discrete enquiries with our clients. Neil also went through a grueling interview process and he won unanimous support. We operate in a very collegial style and so it was important that everyone accepted him."

Ever hopeful
GRAHAM Sawyer, once a Parisian disc jockey, and more recently in the news — page two of the *Sunday Sport* in fact — for having his 88-year-old grandmother as his campaign manager when he contested Barnsley West and Penistone constituency on behalf of the Conservative party, has now turned his attention to the business world. Sawyer, aged 31, has landed a temporary job as a recruitment consul-



panies in the communications and pharmaceutical sectors. "Over 20 per cent of companies said they were experiencing difficulties recruiting in certain areas," says Sawyer. "Information technology and computing people are much in demand as are those involved in top level accountancy and finance."

Tourists bored

AS THE Queen prepares to pay income tax and the marital difficulties of her children continue to receive maximum publicity, it is seems that the pulling power of the royal family as a tourist attraction may be beginning to falter.

Thames & Chiltern Tourist Board, which counts Windsor Castle and Blenheim Palace among its attractions, has gone bust. Smith & Williamson's insolvency specialist Mike Oldham, yesterday appointed liquidator to the board, estimates its deficit at £359,624 and says, "Perhaps the Fergie issue came too late." The board, believed to be the first to go into liquidation, first publicly signalled its difficulties in June when John Bedell, its chief executive, resigned. A month later its chief accountant was dismissed, accused of "gross misconduct" and now all 42 remaining employees will be made redundant. According to Oldham, the root of the problem, as with so many other recession-hit companies, was the board's new head office in Whitney, Oxfordshire, bought and refurbished at a cost of £500,000 and now worth just £350,000.

CAROL LEONARD

Why fusty commercial leases are in need of overhaul

From Mr E. S. Cooke
Sir, Your correspondent M. D. T. Evans writes (Business Times, August 19) of the iniquities of "clear leases" of commercial premises.

He blames landlords and their solicitors for drafting "standard leases" which the tenant is expected to sign. He writes of tenants as if they were the only business in the landlord and tenant relationship.

A landlord has as much if not more capital invested in the premises as the tenant has in his business. Both can and regularly do protect their interests by taking legal advice.

However keen a landlord may be to agree terms, there is usually a point beyond which he cannot go in negotiations, in case the lease fails the test of institutional acceptability.

Whether it is reasonable or not to have a rent capable of review upwards or downwards or a break clause in the tenant's favour after ten years (of a 25-year term) the landlord will be advised to reject it because his lease, according to the values, then becomes institutionally unacceptable.

In other words, a property-investing institution would be unlikely to purchase the freehold reversion, thus blighting

the value of the landlord's investment for all purposes.

In my view, until there is some relaxation in these institutional norms there is little chance of any meaningful modernisation of commercial leases.

It may surprise Mr Evans to know that there are landlords and their solicitors who would welcome a breath of fresh air in this hasty legacy of the 1960s and 70s.

Yours faithfully,
E. S. COOKE
(Solicitor, Head of Commercial Property),
Lawrence Tuckets,
Shannon Court,
Corn Street, Bristol.

True figures for overdraft lending

From Mr Erich Gluch
Sir, May I correct Mr G. B. Miller's calculations ("Bank's great depression borrowing", August 19) concerning the difference between the overdraft rates of National Westminster Bank and Deutsche Bank.

Mr Miller is surprised that the British bank charges him approximately 8 per cent more for an agreed overdraft and 16.5 per cent more for an unarranged overdraft than a German bank although the bank rates in the two countries differ by only 0.25 per cent. The right figures for the difference are in fact nearly 41

per cent and 88 per cent. On an agreed overdraft of £1,000 for a full year NatWest charges £232 and Deutsche Bank £165 — and £232 is nearly 41 per cent more than £165. For unarranged overdrafts the banks charge £376 and £200 respectively — an 88 per cent difference.

As a German I would not dream of suggesting the reason for this huge difference.

Yours faithfully,
ERIC GLUCH,
c/o IFO Institute of
Economic Research,
Poschingerstr. 5,
8000 Munchen 86,
Germany.

KfW's role in financing capital projects

From Mr E. Loewy
Sir, Your excellent article, by Wolfgang Münchau (Business Times, August 18) about the German KfW organisation could, usefully, have mentioned another valuable function performed by that organisation, namely the financing of capital projects in the Third World countries.

Yours faithfully,
E. LOEWY,
"Swanwood",
Highmoor,
Henley-on-Thames,
Oxfordshire.

Taurus inhibits wider share ownership

From Dr John Paxton
Sir, When I started the Taurus correspondence some weeks ago, I suggested that it might well be against the private investors' interest.

The

letter from Mr Gates (August 20) pinpoints my main objection — cost. The commercial account controller is not going to undertake the job for nothing and, judging by the banks' pickpocket character that they have adopted in recent years of charging £5

here and £10 there, the dividends of small investors will soon be eaten up. End of wider share ownership?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN PAXTON,
Moss Cottage,
Hardway,
Somerset.

Letters to The Times
Business and Finance
section can be sent by
fax on 071-782 5112.

Two initiatives will help family firms

By DEREK HARRIS

TWO initiatives are giving a helping hand to family businesses — a substantial part of the economy, since three quarters of all businesses in the United Kingdom are family owned or controlled.

The Confederation of British Industry and Stoy Hayward, the accountant and business adviser, have set up the Stoy Centre for Family Business, offering advice and guidance and a "single voice" lobbying forum.

Peter Leach, a director of Stoy Hayward, is in charge of the centre. Stoy Hayward has been making a study of family businesses.

One feature is an exchange programme to enable the younger members of a business family to gain wider experience by secondment to another family firm.

A quarterly newsletter is being produced in conjunction with the CBI.

An advisory panel with substantial experience in family businesses has been formed to ensure that the centre looks at the whole range of issues facing such businesses.

The members include Professor Peter Davis, a director and founder of the family business studies division at Wharton Business School in Philadelphia, Brian Pearce, the chairman of Pearce Signs Group, which was founded more than 200 years ago, the Earl of Stockton, the president of Macmillan Publishing, who is active in training and enterprise council work, and Professor David Storey, a director of the SME Centre at Warwick Business School.

More details from Mr Leach or Moira Lewis on 071-486 5888.

The CBI and Stoy Hayward are also associated in the second initiative, which is a series of family

business forums to be held around the country. These are intended to bring together the important people in family businesses so they can exchange ideas and experiences and hear about common areas of concern.

Four forums are so far scheduled, in London (September 17), Glasgow (September 22), Manchester (September 30) and Birmingham (October 1). More details Jennifer Mills at the CBI: telephone: 071-379 7400.

The CBI is at Centre Point, 103 New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1DU.

The regional forums have been planned because of the interest shown in a national forum held last December.

That threw up a number of issues of concern to the family business, such as management comparisons between family and non-family businesses, planning for succession, the role of outside advisers, share distributions and the financing of a family company.

Mr Leach says family businesses can have strengths through their unique atmosphere, speedy decision-taking and the willingness to think for the long term.

Equally, they can have problems, such as managing the overlap between the business and family life, limiting emotional conflicts and planning succession to the next generation.

The most common form of conflict arises from father-son relationships, says Mr Leach. However, he believes it is possible to limit the impact on a business one suggestion being managerial autonomy at an early age for a son, possibly by forming a new division for him to run.

More details from Mr Leach or Moira Lewis on 071-486 5888.

The CBI and Stoy Hayward are also associated in the second initiative, which is a series of family

Salvaging vital documents

By ALAN JABEZ

OFFICE disasters might be bad news for most people, but they are proving to be increasingly profitable for Georgina Thorburn. She is a commercial paper conservator — she rescues vital paper documents from the aftermath of big fires, explosions, floods and freak weather. Georgina established her own company, Document SOS, nearly two years ago and has been in regular demand.

She says: "We might live in the computer age, but the most important records in most firms are still kept on paper and, if they are ever lost or destroyed, the firm will lose the spine of its business."

She originally undertook a four-year degree course in paper restoration at the Camberwell School of Art in London and then took a business training course with the London Enterprise Agency.

Her target was a turnover of £100,000 for the first year of operation (which she reached) and her subsequent aim was to double that in future "depending on the number of disasters". As the company has grown, she has taken on a couple of other paper conservators who help with the larger jobs and she now also employs a full-time office administrator.

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To the rescue: Georgina Thorburn, who helps to save important documents after office disasters

erably more than some desperate company managers believe is possible. The increasing number of office catastrophes means that she has not yet had to advertise, but has been damaged by river flooding, which might contain plenty of pesticides, will require different salvaging techniques to paper that has been saturated by a fireman's hose.

Ms Thorburn never makes guarantees as to how much paper she will be able to restore, but it is usually considerable — and considerably more than some desperate company managers believe is possible. The increasing number of office catastrophes means that she has not yet had to advertise, but has been damaged by river flooding, which might contain plenty of pesticides, will require different salvaging techniques to paper that has been saturated by a fireman's hose.

She believes an important part of the company's success has been due to her flexible work attitude and her ability to be able to attend an

incident at a moment's notice. Georgina says: "My mobile phone is extremely useful as I can be kept informed of incidents almost as soon as they happen".

In many jobs, time is of the essence. In fact, after a certain amount of time, the ink on water-damaged papers begins to bleed, which can cause complications and will require further treatment. The nature of the jobs means she will sometimes have to work in different conditions that will require

wearing overalls and appropriate masks. She keeps all her tools, which include chemical-impregnated sponges, deodorisers, fine brushes, organic solvents, mini-vacuums and gloves in a storage shed in central London.

She was recently involved in restoring some of the important documents that were damaged by the big bomb blast in the City of London. She said: "A lot of the papers had chunks of glass or fine glass particles in them."

One in five small businesses has expanded in the past 12 months, despite the recession — and a similar number plan to grow during the next six months, according to National Westminster Bank. Data collected in July suggest that small businesses particularly those employing more than ten people, are thinking about gearing up for recovery. However, nearly half of those expanding, or intending to do so, had delayed their plans because of the recession. Most expanding businesses intend to invest up to £50,000, with a third using business savings and investments to provide the funds.

Jane Bradford, chief of small business services at NatWest, says: "This reflects prudent planning by some small business owners who appear to have put surplus cash balances to one side during the depths of the recession. This is confirmed by NatWest, which has seen a build-up of balances in its high interest business and capital reserve accounts over the past two years."

About 70 per cent of businesses expanding intend to employ more people. Other expenditure will be on machinery, premises and vehicles and includes plans to renew equipment as projects deferred during the recession are brought to fruition. Few small businesses expect to see an immediate increase in turnover or stocks.

Ms Bradford says: "The fact that the businesses surveyed intend to invest so heavily in equipment, premises and people indicates that many are laying a framework for increased sales in the future."

Confidence among small businesses, which had turned up last April, has weakened again, according to the latest NatWest quarterly survey, published by the Small Business Research Trust.

EDITOR: DEREK HARRIS

YESTERDAY



"I'm thinking of relocating"

Some advice for those wanting to succeed in corporate hospitality

By VERONICA HEATH



Good host: Janet White

ORGANISING corporate hospitality may look a tricky business during a recession, but farmer's wife Janet White had built a flourishing business by 1990, saw turnover rise well above £200,000 last year and she is aiming this year to hold her own.

Her biggest project at present is organising aspects of the Cutty Sark tall ships event in July next year, just off the Tyne. Up to 2,000 people will be entertained in a corporate village overlooking the waters there. Sightseeing from the

air and barges brought up from the Thames are two facilities planned. The tall ships event will account for a substantial proportion of the annual turnover of her business, Highcastle Hospitality.

Mrs White, who is chief executive, has just moved to a central Newcastle upon Tyne office because it is more convenient than that at the family farm at Hornimere near Morpeth, Northumberland. One contract helped Northern Electric to launch an initiative to research the environmental impact and energy efficiency of electricity production in the

North East. There was a month-long campaign of 30 events, including exhibitions, seminars and a touring roadshow. Mrs White came out of her original Northern Electric interview despondent about getting a contract which she really wanted. However, Alan Edwards, Northern Electric's marketing manager, had been impressed by her sales pitch.

He said: "She was so positive. She came back on every proposal I put out and made it clear that for her business nothing was going to be a problem."

Other contracts have included

organising celebrations for Inter-City electrification and a Royal opening in the North East for a Korean company.

Highcastle has a portfolio of houses and castles in northern England and the Scottish Borders which will host company events. Meeting individual tastes and customs are at the top of the priority list, which is why Mrs White recently took a course on Japanese etiquette. Arranging field sports, from fox-hunting to shooting, also figures in the Highcastle portfolio.

She said: "I am a great believer in the Joseph Salinsky advice for

those really wanting to succeed in business. Give people what you think they want — then go back and ask them if it really was what they wanted."

Mrs White has four full-time staff, but on a project like the tall ships will operate through up to 200 sub-contractors. The White children get a variety of paid, casual work, but Mrs White is pleased above all that they are learning business fundamentals. She said: "They see that you only succeed through perseverance and hard work. It is a lesson which should stand them in good stead."

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Piggott to prove able deputy on talented Dancing Bloom

LESTER Piggott looks set to benefit from Walter Swinburn being out of action, recovering from concussion, by winning the group three Butlins South Coast World Prestige Stakes at Goodwood today on Dancing Bloom.

Swinburn was on this beautifully-bred filly by Sadler's Wells out of a half-sister to Sun Princess when she made her racecourse debut at Ascot towards the end of last month.

On that occasion reports of the promise that she had already shown on Newmarket Heath preceded her to the course with the result that she started favourite at 13-8, having opened at 5-2.

At no stage of the race did her backers have any reason to feel anxious as she made all the running to win by four lengths on a tight rein.

On her breeding Dancing Bloom should be in her element here now that she confronts a slightly longer trip.

With Aifan, Lake Pleasant, Love Of Silver and Ribbonwood in the field, we should also get a better idea of Dancing Bloom's true potential because this promises to be a stiffer examination than Ascot.

Aifan could hardly have

MICHAEL PHILLIPS

won more easily than she did at Yarmouth first time out, while Lake Pleasant and Love Of Silver have been placed in races won by those good fillies Marina Park and Mystic Goddess after also winning on their debut.

Green's *Ferafel* can be given a good chance of winning the Schroder Investment Management Handicap, even under top weight, judged on his good run in that valuable handicap won by Fire Top at Sandown early last month when there was also winning of give underfoot.

His subsequent poor run at Ascot can be excused on the

deteriorating conditions underfoot that day suggested strongly that she is quite capable of giving the country's senior trainer another successful strike.

At Newmarket, I give the Peter Walwyn-trained *Hamas* a decent chance of winning the listed Hopeful Stakes over six furlongs even though this will be his first attempt at sprinting.

Hitherto he has been campaigned over distances varying from seven to nine furlongs with a fair amount of give underfoot.

After winning at Sandown and Chelmsford, arguably his best performance was that good second to *Susurratus* at York although he was far from disgraced at Newcastle last time out when he finished fourth in the Beeswax Stakes.

Being a son of *Danzig*, *Hamas* will not be short of speed.

Lost Soldier, another son of *Danzig*, who cost \$500,000 when he was sold as a foal, is taken to keep his unbeaten record intact by winning the Blue Peter Stakes while our Newmarket correspondent has encouraging reports about the John Gosden-trained newcomer *Emperor Jones* in the Port of Tilbury Maiden Stakes.

The way that she coped with

Piggott: set to benefit on Dancing Bloom

the way that she coped with

GOODYWOOD

MANDARIN
2.00 Coppermill Lad.
2.40 Green's Ferafel.
3.10 Dancing Bloom.
3.40 GOODY (nap).
4.15 Edge Of Darkness.
4.45 Be Polite.
5.20 Express Service.

RICHARD EVANS: 3.10 Ribbonwood.
Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.10 DANCING BLOOM (nap).
The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.45 EL NINO.

GOING: GOOD, GOOD TO SOFT IN STRAIGHT
DRAW 5F-6F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

2.10 OAKLEY APPRENTICE HANDICAP (£4,127; 5) (7 runners)

BETTING: 7-2 Belts Of Longness, 4-1 Stobians, 8-2 The Noble Oak, 5-1 Belstone, 11-2 Coppermill Lad, 6-1 Mandarin, 8-1 Ever So Lovely.

1991: BURDORF 12-1, Pigeon (7-1) B 7th run

FORM FOCUS

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Taylor: tight-lipped

FOOTBALL

New deal agreed with ITV

THE Football League and ITV negotiators have reached a new agreement for the television of live football this season. A meeting of the 70 league clubs at Walsall today will hear that most of their basic objections to the four-year, £5 million deal have been met (Peter Ball writes).

Under the agreement, ITV will pay £60,000 for each live match, regardless of which regions are showing the game. This represents a sizeable advance on the original agreement, when smaller regions such as Tyne Tees were paying about £12,000 for a match, and even LWT and Central paid only £30,000 per visit.

The other area of concern for the League was the fear of over-exposure for certain clubs. Newcastle and Sunderland in particular feared that regular visits from Tyne Tees would result in them losing money from reduced attendances on Sundays.

The ITV negotiators have agreed that a club will appear a maximum of 12 times, six home and six away. Even that, though, will seem too many to some clubs.

Brighton and Hove Albion, drawn against Manchester United in the second round of the Coca-Cola Cup, will play the first leg at home to avoid clashing with the Conservative Party conference and over-stretching police resources.

DRAW: Bury v Charlton Athletic; Notts County v West Ham United; Boro v Blackpool; United v Boro; City, West Ham United v Craven Alexander; Huddersfield Town v Stockton Rovers; Manchester United v Boro; Stockton Rovers v Liverpool; Chesterfield; Carlisle United v Norwich City; Tottenham Hotspur v Birmingham; Reading v Torquay United; Walsall v Wrexham; Port Vale v Fleetwood; Shrewsbury Wednesday v Hartlepools United; Arsenal v Millwall; Leeds United v Southampton; Coventry City v West Ham United; Chelsea v Leicester City; Peterborough United, Gillingham v Nottingham Town; Southampton, Sheffield United v Coventry; United v Birmingham; Exeter City v Oldham Athletic; Crystal Palace v Lincoln; Bolton Wanderers v Wimborne; Stockton County v Hartlepool United; Wrexham v Walsall; Oxford United v Aston Villa; Coventry City v Scarborough; Bristol City v Sheffield United; Macclesfield Town v Macclesfield; Luton Town v Plymouth Argyle.

□ First leg to be played at first-named club week commencing Sept 21; second leg during week commencing Oct 5.

Taylor misses the point with his sound of silence

Graham Taylor is a man of many contradictions but this week has surpassed himself.

Throughout a flying visit to Oslo, where he watched England's opening World Cup qualifying opponents, he maintained an obstinate silence, conduct which is unprecedented by any national manager, let alone one so volatile as he.

In waging a cold war with the small group of familiar travellers to Norway, he broke one of his own principles. As the son of a journalist, he has always been conscious of the need for healthy public relations. Indeed, he specialises in them.

When he succeeded Bobby

Robson, he determined to clear the rancid air which had developed between the England squad and the press during the 1990 World Cup. Every player to be chosen for England was urged to respond to requests for interviews. Even the notoriously recalcitrant Stuart Pearce and Des Walker were persuaded to come out of their shells and share their views. The breath of mutual trust, which had collapsed in 1990, was slowly rebuilt.

The deliberate policy of diplomacy continued when Taylor's selections were regarded as, at best, curious, or at worse, illogical. His explanations were occasionally less than convincing but

opinions were debated in an adult and amicable fashion.

Taylor initially asked the media only to be "fair" with him. Yet he had seen the savage vitriol that was hurled at his predecessor after the European championship four years ago and given his journalistic background, he surely appreciated the potential consequences of failure.

Nevertheless he was evidently not prepared for the reaction to England's elimination from the European Championship in June. Apart from being cruelly lampooned by one tabloid newspaper, for which Taylor has

every right to feel aggrieved, the criticism was otherwise comparatively mild.

Two months later, though, Taylor is still clearly smarting. "You've got your job to do and I've got mine," he replied tersely on Wednesday when asked whether he could care to make any public comment. Subsequent calls to his hotel were unanswered. On the journey home, he was scarcely any more expansive. "I treat people as they treat me," he said. "I have been attending matches like this in the past and not had this sort of attention. Why now?"

Yet the same group of journalists have regularly accompanied him abroad to see similar games and took him out to dinner in Budapest at the start of his national managerial career. The fixtures, like Wednesday's, were invariably not as significant as the opportunity to talk informally.

Since he is to declare on Tuesday his first squad of the new season for the game against Spain in Santander, the trip to Oslo was conveniently propitious. Away from sycophants and mischievous hangers-on, Taylor would have been able to relay his thoughts to the public.

Instead, all that was heard was the sound of silence. Has

the burden of the job become too onerous? Is he not prepared to face even the critics he knows best? Was he merely sulking? His action is open to various interpretations. He has no contractual duty to speak but to say nothing, as might be the case again on Tuesday, is not being "fair", to use his own word, to a public he needs to reassure.

At least Anders Limpar was ready to act as Taylor's mouthpiece. Arsenal's wing-man, and the designer of the first of Sweden's goals in the 2-2 draw, is convinced that Norway's visit to Wembley on October 14 will be pointless. "Nobody can beat England at Wembley when it really matters," he said out-

side the Ullevaal stadium. "They have a strong squad but they don't have a chance at Wembley."

The Norwegian manager, Egil Olsen, was no less pessimistic. He expressed particular misgivings about his own side's ability to protect themselves against the direct, physical method he expects England to employ, both in six weeks' time and in the return fixture next June.

Taylor, presumably, saw the same weakness in the team he regards as the dark horses of a qualifying group that also includes Holland, Poland, Turkey and San Marino. Nobody will know until the breakdown in his public relations exercise is repaired.

GOLF

Ballesteros is out of form but top of Gallacher's list

BY MITCHELL PLATTS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

BERNARD Gallacher might be disappointed that Severiano Ballesteros, among others, is not playing in the Murphy's English Open, which starts at The Belfry today, but he has already panned in the out-form Spaniard for the Ryder Cup match against the United States next year.

Gallacher said: "I fully expect Seve to get his motivation back, with the Ryder Cup points race starting at the European Masters next week, and I cannot imagine him not being in the team, unless he commands me not to select him."

"I would say, selfishly, that I would have liked some of our stars to be playing this week because it is an important event and the last one to be played at The Belfry before the Ryder Cup. But I know these great players will not want to sit back and take a chance on being picked so I expect them to try to win places in the team."

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Daughters to the fore

BRUCE and Karen Tenniswood held off a brave comeback by Carole Caldwell and her 13-year-old son Richard to earn a place in the semi-finals of the Bursill Family Four-somes yesterday (a Special Correspondent writes).

The Caldwell's were three down after six holes and still struggling in the wind, two holes in arrears with only four to play. But they won back the 15th and 16th and halved the next before losing on the last green, where the Tenniswoods made a superb par four to take the match.

That made two father-and-daughter combinations in the

semi-finals and both Tenniswood, and Richard Stocks are determined to halve the 11-year winning run by mother-and-son partnerships. Stocks and his daughter Joanna won by 3 and 2 against Judy Henderson and Simon Best after they had been all-square with five to play. The two other quarter-finals also ended on the 16th green with mother and son winners. Lene and Andrew Gilbert of the host club who were the champions in 1984, beat Tony and Emma Mores, while Gillian and Jeremy Blok beat another local pair, Sue and Timothy Hubbard.

More than 30,000 cubic metres of "fill" has been used to build mounds around some greens and Thomas contends that, the horseshoe shape achieved at the 17th will enable 12,000 spectators to watch that hole in comfort. I am not so sure that the mounding at the back of the 15th will work so effectively.

Meanwhile, David Gilford defended the title he won 12 months ago and Colin Montgomery, Steven Richardson, Rodger Davis, Mark James, Anders Forsbrand and Vijay Singh should be among the contenders for a first prize of £9,660.

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Gower mistimes launch of his cutting remarks



By ALAN LEE

THE prospects of David Gower extending his England career in India this winter were done no favours yesterday when copies of his autobiography, containing candid criticism of the team management, went on sale two weeks earlier than planned.

The timing could be hugely embarrassing for Gower, whose book was completed last winter at a stage when he believed his Test match days were over. He has since recovered his England place and Graham Gooch, the captain, is believed to want him in the tour party.

When the selectors meet next week, however, Micky

Stewart, the outgoing team manager, will still have a substantial input, and he now has to weigh his views of Gower's future in the side against a personal attack in the book which reveals the parlous state of their relationship.

Gower writes with genuine distress of his temporary rift with Gooch, a breakdown in styles and communication on which Gooch had his say in a book published earlier this year. But his bars are reserved for Stewart who, ironically, was yesterday given a lavish lunch at Taunton to mark the end of his six years as England manager.

At the time of writing, Gower was so convinced he had been cast adrift by Eng-

land that he referred to his Test career in the past tense. "Most disappointing of all was the way that it finished. The rug was whipped away from under me and I was left on my arse."

Gower writes of the "peculiar way in which Stewart's mind operates", adding: "He did not seem to want me back at any price. Unfortunately, the way he went about things irritated me and I was not always very good at concealing my feelings. Come to think of it, I do not believe I was, or am, the only player to think this way."

"He probably spent all day thinking to himself, 'What's that prat doing out there now? Why isn't Gatt captain? ... We never really hit it off from the outset, largely, I think,

despite his efforts and good intentions. I still found him unconvincing and uninspiring."

The contrasting personalities and lifestyles of Gower and Stewart were never likely to gel as a captain-manager team and Gower reveals just how far apart they drifted during his brief spell in charge of the side in 1989. It later transpired that Stewart had tried to restore Mike Gatting to the captaincy, news which only increased Gower's sense of resentment.

"He probably spent all day thinking to himself, 'What's that prat doing out there now? Why isn't Gatt captain? ... We never really hit it off from the outset, largely, I think,

because our views on management differ so much. I like to treat people as individuals, while Micky would prefer a team of Subbuteo players all programmed to do things my way."

Gower describes Stewart's tactical input on that tour as "nothing to write home about" and sums up: "No sympathy, no individuality — and no wonder we did so badly."

Such an outspoken dissection of Stewart's methods would make it very difficult for him and Gower to work together again. Gower's consolation is that this will not be necessary. Keith Fletcher is managing the England team to India and, despite the book, indications are that Gower will still be going.

Micky couldn't sort him out and it was only when his brother, Chris, arrived in Sydney that the situation began to improve."

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Lamb denies receiving payment

ICC locked into legal battle on ball allegations

By ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

THE game of cricket has descended depressingly into the hands of the law this week and yesterday, in London and Northampton, the great cricket ball controversy was sustained by solicitors taking what should have been a simply resolved issue and placing it in a legal minefield.

At Lord's, the harassed secretary of the International Cricket Council (ICC) set several fresh deadlines for the statement on which so much rests, but found themselves unable to meet any of them due to a small-print technicality raised with relish by lawyers acting for the Pakistan tour team.

In Northampton, Allan Lamb, who burst into print in Wednesday's *Daily Mirror*, alleging that the Pakistani bowlers had cheated by tampering with balls all summer, issued a statement through his solicitor denying that he, or his family, had been paid for the revelations.

Meanwhile, Lamb's England team-mate, David Gower, has gone on record with a remarkably similar accusation against the Indian touring team of two years ago. In his autobiography, now freely on

sale in shops and at cricket grounds, Gower claims, when writing of the Oval Test in that series: "The ball was not swinging as it had in our first innings and although the opposition's efforts to make it wobble around did not preclude some surreptitious scrapping up on one side of the ball, this was quickly sniffed out by the former Fraud Squad officer, now Test match umpire, Nigel Prew."

If India were, indeed, warned about ball-doctoring, as were the England team, by umpire John Holder, on the same ground a year later, it only adds to the hypocrisy and double-standards which have epitomised this whole sorry tale.

The Pakistanis were playing at Scarborough yesterday, but under a fifth-choice captain in Shoaib Mohammad. Most of the leading players, including Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis, the bowlers at the eye of the storm, were nowhere in evidence and the tour manager, Khalid Mahmood, was believed to be in London, not too far away from his solicitors.

Lamb, having been fined about £2,000 and suspended for two games by his county, Northamptonshire, was still waiting to hear if he will be summoned before a disciplinary hearing of the TCCB. He did, however, produce his own solicitor, Alan Herd, during a rainy day at Northampton, to make the curious disclaimer regarding any fee from the *Daily Mirror*.

Amid much speculation about his longer-term future, Lamb also said that he remains available for England and intends to see out the remaining two years of his contract with Northamptonshire. "I have not the slightest intention of going to any other county," he said.

Lamb may not, however, continue as the club's captain beyond this season. He says he will be discussing this with his wife at the end of the summer. The club, via their chief executive, Steve Coverdale, insist that the events of recent days will have no bearing on the captaincy but add that they expect him to play willingly under any new leader.

Peter Barnard, page 12
Kent take control, page 28



Jumping to it: Beerbaum, of Germany, urges on Rasman in the Silk Cut tankard

Luckett takes the honours

By A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

GEOFF Luckett, riding Everest Vantage, took the Silk Cut tankard at the opening stage of the Hickstead Derby meeting yesterday, winning a three-horse barrage for the £1,250 prize.

The 12-obstacle course set for the first round proved more exacting than most riders expected and there were no clear rounds from 40 starters. This left three four-faulters to go forward, although Michael Whitaker, on Henderson Curtis, would have joined them but for a fractional time penalty.

In the jump-off, Joe Turi and Michael Bullman's stallion, Vital, who will attempt a

Derby victory on Sunday, marred a fast time when hitting two of the seven fences. Luckett and his 12-year-old, although almost ten seconds slower, failed only at the ornamental gate at halfway. This proved to be the winning round as Richard Barton from Yorkshire, riding Foxendale, formerly partnered by Michael Whitaker, ran up 16 faults for sixth place.

Luckett, 32, at one time attached to Ted Edgar's stable, now has his own yard and the benefit of Everest sponsorship. Vantage, who did so well with the British team on the North American circuit last autumn, missed the Royal

International here and one or two other shows because of a virus. But the rider feels his horse is back to his best and hopes for a good performance in Sunday's derby, particularly if the going is firmer than that encountered yesterday.

David Bowen and Delsey led virtually throughout the one round Silk Cut Challenge, judged on over seven formidable fences. Germany's new Olympic champion, Ludger Beerbaum, was runner-up on Almox Athletico.

RESULTS: Silk Cut Tankard: 1, Everest Vantage (G Luckett); 4 faults, 68.86sec; 2, R. Barton (E. Edgar); 16. 97.25. Silk Cut Challenge: 1, D. Bowen (A. Bowen); 49.88sec; 2, Almox Athletico (L. Beerbaum, Ger); 61.22; 3, Everso Cuckoo (G Luckett); 52.45.

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Sheringham joins Spurs in £2.1m deal

By DENNIS SIGNY

TEDDY Sheringham, the Nottingham Forest forward, will join Tottenham Hotspur today on a four-year contract at a fee of £2.1 million.

After five hours of talks with

Sheringham and his representative, Frank McLintock, at the Tottenham training ground at Mill Hill yesterday, Terry Venables, the Tottenham chief executive, confirmed that he expected the transfer to go through by today's noon deadline in time for Sheringham, 26, to make his debut for his new club at Portman Road on Sunday in the televised match against Ipswich Town.

Sheringham completed the formalities of a medical examination at Mill Hill and Venables said last night: "It is all OK at our end and I don't see any problems. It is just odds and ends to sort out." Sheringham, a long-time Tottenham supporter since Glenn Hoddle was his boyhood hero, joined Forest from Millwall last summer for £1.5 million and scored 22 goals.

Brian Clough, the Forest manager, decided that Tottenham's initial offer of £2 million was not enough. When

League's TV deal, page 29

Games trips let down by trains

By JOHN GOODBY

THE British Olympic Association has received about 20 letters of complaint from supporters of the team in Barcelona, whose trips were spoilt by unsatisfactory accommodation and travel difficulties.

A spokeswoman yesterday said that Dick Palmer, the general secretary, would be seeing and answering the letters on his return from holiday. The arrangements for the team had been "impeccable", she said.

More than 6,000 Britons went on package deals organised by Sportsworld, the association's official agency, Mike Norris, the chairman and managing director, said that, although there had been "observations" about the trips, he had received about 50 letters thanking the company for organising the packages, which cost from £495 for three nights to £2,495 for 21 nights.

He said: "This was a huge programme to undertake. We had a staff of more than 140 in Spain and they were run off their feet. What has been

encouraging has been the large number of supporters who are already making inquiries about Atlanta."

The main problem at the Games was the shortage of hotels in Barcelona, forcing travel agents to find accommodation sometimes more than 60 miles away.

Norris said: "It was impossible to get close to Barcelona and the transportation was not thought out. In the eight months before the Games, we had assurances, in writing, that transport would be provided after the final events."

However, trains were not run up to Iam, as had originally been agreed. Therefore, Sportsworld had to hire up to 60 buses a day to take clients to the city, some of whom paid £18 each way.

Nick Thorneley and Tony Bryan, of the Modern Pentathlon Association, said they were so dissatisfied with their small apartments, costing £1,000 each a week, that they moved out and rented a villa for less.

The truth is that except for the big four — McLaren, Ferrari, Benetton and Williams — the other teams are in deep financial trouble. Some like Ligier, which is state-aided, and Lotus, will also survive. But it seems at least four teams will not make the starting grid next year.

Mansell, Patrese, Prost, Senna and Berger are the only drivers who will be paid substantially next year.

The others will get comparatively little, or may have to pay for their drives. This year's going rate was \$1 million, but the recession is biting so deep that that figure will probably decrease. Already two teams are scrapping for a "meagre" all-car lottery sponsorship of \$1.5 million.

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Many in Formula One are puzzled by those drivers who have moved on. Some enquired as to how much Graham Hill's son would want for a leading drive?

Drivers faced with big pay cuts for next season

FROM NORMAN HOWELL
IN SPA, BELGIUM

GERHARD Berger's move to Ferrari for, as he happily admitted yesterday, "a nice sum of money" has highlighted the real reason why the most important drivers in Formula One are finding it hard to negotiate the kind of contracts that they have been used to.

The team owners are fed up with paying the extraordinary amounts of money that drivers have managed to earn in the past. One team official has admitted that his budget for drivers last year was \$31 million (about £16.3 million).

The drivers treat such figures jokily, claiming they are

wildly exaggerated. But these sums are at odds with the global economic climate. If further evidence was needed that Formula One is not recession-proof, the need for a pre-qualifying session for the Belgian grand prix here was cancelled yesterday when the struggling Brabham team failed to arrive for scrutineering. The British team has been short of money all season and hopes to make an announcement about the future today.

Berger's move from McLaren will reward the Austrian financially, but that is the exception rather than the rule for 1993. In addition, there are contractual restrictions imposed by drivers

which tie negotiations further. Alain Prost, with financial support from Renault and Elf, has secured a drive with Williams for next season. He has an exclusion clause in his contract which prevents Ayrton Senna from driving in the same team.

Senna has been trying hard for a seat in a Williams. The Williams' response has been to claim impecunious. But the real reason appears to be that Mansell also has exclusion clauses in his contract. Senna has called Williams' bluff, announcing that he would drive for free. This has embarrassed the team somewhat.

Prost has been talking with McLaren, trying to ensure

himself a competitive drive should Senna manage to persuade Williams.

Mansell has had to face the same problem that Niki Lauda had in 1985 when, after winning the title the year before, he had an option of earning half the amount of money he had earned the previous year, or else. In the end he took the money.

This is now what some Formula One observers are suggesting that Mansell will have to do even though he has been offered 30 per cent less than the £9 million he earned the previous year.

Mansell, Patrese, Prost, Senna, Alesi and Berger are the only drivers who will be paid substantially next year.

Don't miss
The Times
A-level league
table
this Saturday.
It's both
comprehensive
and public.

WITH the A-level results now in, we see how well the schools have done in this year's exams. Over 250 of the best will be named and the performance of private and public sector schools compared.

THE TIMES

Something funny about the garden

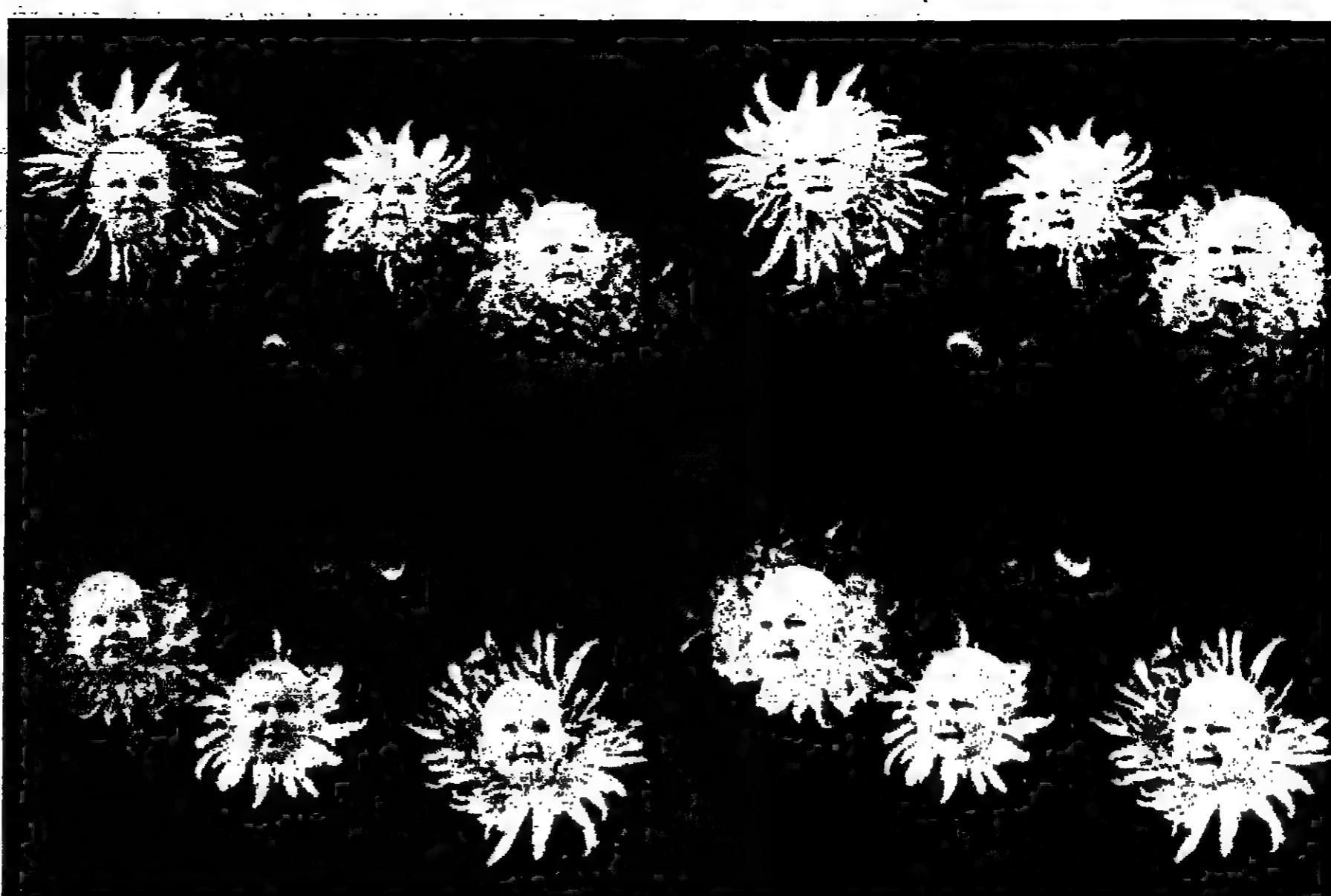
London Galleries: Flowers have been photographed in many remarkable ways, as Richard Cork finds at the Serpentine

Nothing could be more riddled with potential pitfalls than photographing flowers. In colour, the assembled blooms can easily look as garish and banal as the illustrations in a seed catalogue. Escaping into black-and-white can be just as hazardous, for monochrome can easily drain flowers of all their sensuous appeal.

No wonder that the earliest exhibits in the Serpentine Gallery's enjoyable survey of *Flora Photographica* seem to approach their subjects gingerly. At a time when lithography was held to be the finest way of reproducing flowers, the technical problems besiegling cameras and chemical processes made photography an unattractive option. When Fox Talbot took a picture of his daughter Elia around 1845, the flowers in her hand were too smudgy to be identified with ease. So 19th-century photographers resorted to other methods of giving their floral images enough visual interest.

Sometimes the results were comically desperate. One anonymous practitioner posed a group of swed and praying women round an extravagantly large bloom, trying to invest it with the status of a deity. Another unknown photographer decapitated his female sitter and placed a flower where her face should be. She points a Leonardo-like finger at the other side of the picture, where a pale rising from a plant pot is crowned by the woman's missing head.

Such tactics may be weirdly prophetic of Surrealism, but they smack of insecurity as well. Even the redoubtable Roger Fenton, who photographed elaborate still-lives with apparent Victorian confidence in the 1860s, almost smothered his flowers with a cornucopia of swollen plums, peaches and cucumbers. The Alinari brothers in Italy resorted to quotations from Renaissance paintings. The lily in their bu-



Babes in full bloom: John Stezaker's untitled photocollage, taken from his bizarre *Underworld* series of ingeniously deconstructed flower photographs

som, made in 1925, also has inescapable connections with the paintings of her fellow American Georgia O'Keeffe. Both women were quite uninhibited about seeking out the most erotic aspects of the flowers they explored. The petals in Cunningham's picture seem to part as she pushes her lens forward, penetrating the secret centre of the magnolia.

Sexual undertones are detectable, too, in Koudi Cramer's *Rose Abstraction* a decade later. But as his title indicates, Cramer is more interested in the undulating pattern created by intricately unfurled petals. They suggest a cratered landscape on the moon's surface rather than the delicacy of a rose.

The most engaging section of the

show proves, though, that people and flowers cannot remain separate for long. When Kertész finds a simple pot of blooms in the foreground of Mondrian's Paris house, they somehow come to stand in for the absent artist. Time and again, flowers manage to make their own comments on the people they accompany. In August Sander's austere study of two sisters from Westerwald, the identical roses on their dresses look as unloved as the girls themselves. The flower leaning out of the glass at Otto Dix's elbow seems impelled by the same fusing, diagonal energy which the sitter exudes as she stares at Hugo Erfurth's camera.

When Cecil Beaton juxtaposed Marlene Dietrich with an ornate floral arrangement in 1937, he ensured that she was

even more orchidaceous than the blooms beside her. As for Salvador Dalí, rising from the sea with the familiar mock-insanity in his eyes, he looks just as inconsequenous as the two tiny flowers perched on his preposterous moustache.

The vulnerability discovered by so many photographers in Marilyn Monroe was intensified when she clapped two outsize paper flowers on her bare breasts and smiled for Bert Stern in 1962. Fragility turns to mortality when Robert Mapplethorpe shows a hand lying, as if dead, with an orchid. Just as Dutch 17th-century artists used flowers to symbolise vanity and transience, so Mapplethorpe seems to prophesy his own early end.

Diane Michals explores a related mood in her four-part *A Dream of Flowers*, where a handsome,

sleeping man gradually becomes covered with petals. They begin by garlanding and end up threatening to asphyxiate him. And John Stezaker's bizarre photocollage from his *Underworld* series presents a mutant cluster of babies' faces emerging from sickly yellow blooms.

Although they smile wholeheartedly for the moment, their expressions might easily change to fear when they realise the helplessness of their predicament.

The result is more unsettling, in its deceptively fanciful way, than the crude iconoclasm of Mike & Doug Starn. By tearing, bending, scratching and staining their print of a rose, and then pinning the battered image inside a wooden frame, they presumably aim at assaulting the conventions of photographic representation. But their

strategies are merely hectoring. Mapplethorpe had no need to resort to literal aggression in the work assembled here.

In *Calla Lily with Shadow*, his subject seems to dance with balletic grace before the encircling gloom. And a close-up view of the same flower, taken only months before his death, finds a rigorously composed serenity in the billowing, blue-singed form. We are tempted to see it as final testament, acknowledging the certainty of extinction.

The phallic form lodged near the lily's centre possesses the resilience which enabled him, even near the end, to retain the glacial poise of his finest achievements.

• *Flora Photographica* is at the Serpentine Gallery (071-402 6075) until September 20, sponsored by BT. Daily, 10am-6pm, admission free.

Theatre Review: The new Ayckbourn musical in Scarborough

Beauty in suburbia

Cross Alan Ayckbourn, the bard of contemporary suburbia, with the Brothers Grimm or Hans Christian Andersen, and what is the result? It might be Rapunzel letting her hair down the Telecom Tower for love, or the Giant, pounding along the M25 in pursuit of Jack the upwardly mobile salesman in his Sierra. In fact, it dreams from a Summer House (Stephen Joseph Theatre). It is Beauty who crashes a party in a mock-Tudor house in Leatherhead, and the Beast who carries off the most obnoxious member of the host's family, presumably to a castle in the mountains of Esther.

The musical play that Ayckbourn has written with John Pattison eventually becomes a muddle, and a pretty sentimental muddle at that; but it contains some delightful incongruities. Picture the bewilderment of Chrissie (Christine Cox), a fussy, driven hostess, when she is confronted with a fairy-tale princess who can converse only in song. Imagine the consternation of her and everybody else when a vast, hairy troll suddenly pads across the lawn, throws her nasty daughter over his shoulder, and bounds back into the rose-bushes.

Ayckbourn has certainly had his elfin, whimsical moods in recent times. In both *Woman in Mind* and *Invisible Friends* he brought dream-figures up out of his characters' unconsciousness and paraded them about the stage. But like all wishful fantasies, these turned out to have their destructive side. The difference here is that both Beauty and her Beast vastly improve the people who summon them up — and, hardly more explicitly, themselves 'up' embodying the virtues of sexual equality and loving acceptance of one another's limitations. What has happened to the Ayckbourn who has spent his career writhing over the unending war between Adam and Eve?

Actually, that honest if cynical chap is often visible in the evening's early stages. The main characters are Chrissie's daughter Amanda (Janet Lee), who has resumed in a rage from her second honeymoon, and the young woman's first husband Robert Dale (Rapley), an artist who has borrowed the summer



Jamie Dee as Amanda: after the honeymoon, the rage

house to work on a book of fairy-stories. It is his bitter denunciation of women that brings Beauty (Jan Hartley) dancing prettily out of the mist, and his ex-wife's venom-hatred that conjures up the Beast (Anthony Venditti). So far, so good.

What follows has its funny moments, but also its inscrutable ones. Not only must the audience cope with inconsistencies in the dramatic conventions Ayckbourn uses: they must buy some less-than-logical emotional developments. It is perfectly credible that the dreadful Amanda should turn the tables on a Beast who keeps her lettered and makes her sing, but that conveys up to the evening's end, neither Ayckbourn's script nor his production has caught it.

Would you believe? "Man

has no right or duty to enslave

or fetter beauty," throbingly

sung by an awesomely sincere ogre? No, nor did I; not from Alan Ayckbourn.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

The series that nobody in the saloon bar is talking about ended last night. The reason nobody is talking about it is that the saloon bar is mostly populated by men and men discuss football, lacking the emotional maturity to talk about sex. Only women discuss sex. Is that true? Search me.

Men Talk (Channel 4) ended with women talking. Women always get the last word, ho ho. The men from the all-male programmes that constituted the rest of the series were also there, and what a sorry bunch they are. One, having been 'a bit of a scuff' on the previous programme, was told there would be 'ladies' present last night so he put on a tie. Fair bowled 'em over, I bet. Surprisingly, when Cecil Beaton juxtaposed Marlene Dietrich with an ornate floral arrangement in 1937, he ensured that she was

Babble of the sexes

same room, I do not myself see three million pages of Germaine Greer being knocked over by the mechanics of the slow foxtrot.

According to a particularly attractive young woman — sorry, that just slipped out — men need to treat women as equals and then everything would be all right. This woman (lovely smile) also thought that male honesty would help. A man who was not called Ken and had not even bothered to put on a tie said he had tried equality but it did not work. He had tried honesty, too, but that did not work either. Honesty, equality ... prototype qualities, really, not the sort you would want to be in the same room, I do not myself see three million pages of Germaine Greer being knocked over by the mechanics of the slow foxtrot.

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According to a particularly attractive young woman — sorry, that just slipped out — men need

An awful lot of Borgias in Brazil

Kate Muir reports on the bitter family feud behind the downfall of the glamorous president of Brazil

Like the best Latin soap operas, the one surrounding Brazil's first family has all the essential ingredients: brother turning on brother; a playboy president; an interfering mother; an estranged and over-dressed wife; accusations of madness; fast cars; large mansions; and, of course, allegations of wholesale corruption.

Unfortunately for scandal-encrusted President Fernando Collor de Mello, his country's appetite for this particular hotblooded drama is now beginning to wane. This week, Sénhor Collor was charged with using his office to "obtain improper profits and benefits" worth an estimated \$6.5 million (£3.3 million). Impeachment proceedings began against the president, and soap-loving Brazilians were treated to the real thing — a five-hour television reading of the 200-page Congressional report on his complex finances.

The situation has been made more embarrassing by the fact that the 43-year-old president was turned in by his own brother. In May, Pedro Collor, aged 39, accused his elder brother of corrupt business dealings in an interview in the Brazilian news magazine *Veja*. The resultant feud meant the family was dubbed "The Borgias from Brazil".

The president was linked to his election campaign treasurer, businessman Paulo Cesar Farias, who was accused of racketeering and fraud. Through Sénhor Farias, millions of dollars allegedly were funnelled into bank accounts controlled by Sénhor Collor's first and second wives, his mother and his friends. The Collor lakeside mansion in Brasilia was redecorated, the gardens remodelled, expensive furniture arrived and a new Fiat Elba executive car appeared.

The Collor brothers come from one of Brazil's most privileged families, heirs to a fortune created by their senior father, who built up a media empire of newspapers and a local television station, part of Brazil's national *Globo* network.

Both young men were playboys about Brasilia in the 1970s and rivals from early on. Fernando forsook his early career as the editor of one of his father's newspapers to move to local politics. Pedro stayed with the Collor business, taking over as the director when his father died. He was naturally annoyed when the new president deregulated the media and allowed Sénhor Farias to plan the opening of a competing newspaper.

But that was nothing to Pedro's fury when he discovered Fernando had been telephoning his wife, the glamorous Maria Tereza. There was a spate of newspaper articles

about the alleged amorous adventures of the president, as well as plenty of speculation about his second marriage to beautiful, 25-year-old Rosane. The president answered the corruption and infidelity allegations by saying his brother was mad. Pedro voluntarily took a sanity test to prove him wrong. That avenue exhausted, Fernando then sued Pedro for libel.

The family feud which turned into a national outrage had Brazilians marching in their thousands wearing "Collor for ex-president" and "Don't steal — Fernando hates competition" T-shirts. Torn between fascination with the continuing drama of the Collor family, and demands for the president to resign, the country has compromised, for the moment, with a full airing of the Collors' dirty laundry.

Sénhor Collor was elected president in the country's first free elections in 1989 with a 3 per cent majority, after nearly three decades of dictatorship. He declared himself "the hunter of the maharajahs" — the high-salaried, corrupt civil servants who were, he claimed, bleeding the country dry. He vowed to help "the shirtless ones and the barefooted".

The handsome, rich, articulate Fernando Collor and his pretty wife were compared with John and Jackie Kennedy. Aided by his family links to the *Globo* television empire, the young millionaire undertook a publicity tour of the country by Lear jet and portrayed himself successfully as the voice of the people.

His populist stance belied his youth growing up in a mansion in one of Rio's best neighbourhoods, and his education at exclusive Catholic schools. The family was shaken slightly when his father, Arnon de Mello, shot another politician on the floor of the Senate and claimed immunity. The Collors then moved to the new capital, Brasilia, where Fernando, according to an interview given by Paul Otavio, a friend from those days, gained a reputation as "a ladies man, a happy fellow, a party, crazy about sports cars, very vain". The city yacht club voted Sénhor Collor one of Brasilia's "ten most elegant men".

The advocate for the shirtless has a large wardrobe. He once modelled for Pierre Cardin at a charity fashion show, and orders an average of 15 suits from his personal tailor each year. He has a fondness for good silk.

Sénhor Collor divorced his first wife, Lilibeth Monteiro de Carvalho, an heiress and the mother of his two sons, in 1981. In 1984 he married Rosane Maia, a college



A first family's public face but President Fernando Collor de Mello and his wife have only recently become reconciled and the family is accused of wholesale corruption

graduate and former debutante, and the daughter of one of the most influential families in the Collors' home state of Alagoas. Soon after, he became governor of the state.

Things seemed to be going well at the start of his presidential term. He restored glamour to the leadership by piloting Air Force fighters, leaping from helicopters dressed in combat gear, skydiving and riding jet waterskis. So daredevil was he that his mother, Leda, led a campaign to stop him risking his life.

President Bush held a dinner in honour of the Collors at the White House, and referred to Brazil's new president as "Indiana Jones" because he piloted his own plane part of the way to Washington. Back home, monthly hyper inflation went from 50 to 20 per cent and the public seemed to be supporting their new leader through an asset freeze and ex-

treme economic austerity. But being an inexperienced politician, he chose an inexperienced cabinet, and having changed political parties four times until he invented his own, he had difficulty getting support from Congress.

Then, last year, came an early indication that all was not well in the House of Collor. The First Lady had awarded contracts worth nearly \$500,000 to three of her relatives, in her new role as the head of the state charity for the poor, the Brazilian Assistance Legion. The charity also held a \$12,000 champagne banquet at her instigation. When she took the job she said: "I want to be respected for being myself, not just for being the president's wife or for being elegant and well-dressed."

Sénhor Collor, angered by the tarnishing effect of his wife's behaviour, spurned her in public in a televised speech made this time last

year he drew attention to the fact that he was not wearing his wedding ring by rubbing his naked finger. Sénhor Collor broke down in tears at a public function in a cathedral when her husband failed to turn up. Newspapers pointed out the couple had spent Valentine's day apart.

As the scandal spread, the couple made up publicly, either to save face, or perhaps because Rosane's father had said threateningly, "In our family the women are either married or widowed."

But the reconciliation came too late. Flying into the Collors' personal affairs had become of national interest, and the spotlight moved to the president.

Without Pedro Collor's leaks, the allegations of corruption might have taken longer to surface. The president's mother tried to keep the

lid on the trouble for as long as possible and removed Pedro as the director of the family company in which she is the majority stockholder, claiming he was under stress. It was then that he submitted to a sanity test.

Thereafter, it was open house on the Collor presidency, with new allegations surfacing week by week. What really upset the Brazilians was the revelation that while their savings had been frozen in the 1990 austerity measures, causing losses of up to 80 per cent, it appeared that Sénhor Farias and the president's secretary made massive cash withdrawals just before the bank freeze was announced.

The Congress report charges that Sénhor Farias obtained millions of dollars from business executives in exchange for promises of government contracts or favoured treatment, and used part of the money to cover Sénhor Collor's personal expenses. Investigators found

cheques for millions of dollars in a bank account in the name of the president's secretary, which was for the exclusive use of Sénhor Collor and his friends.

Now, as the Brazilian Bar Association prepares the case against Sénhor Collor, his only chance of political survival is to persuade Congress to vote against the impeachment motion, expected next week. He recently released \$400 million for a low-cost housing and sanitation programme and granted radio and television licences to politicians. These actions have been interpreted as an attempt to shore up the vote.

"Expect lots of action and plenty of emotion during my five years of government," Sénhor Collor said at the start of his term. Brazilians are predicting he was right about the action, but wrong about lasting the five years.

Carnival is back on the streets of Notting Hill this weekend — with the stamp of official approval

Yes, it's almost bogling time



Hot, hot, hot: every year there is a different controversy surrounding the carnival

If you believe the hype, the whole of Britain has been warming up this week in anticipation of getting hot, hot, hot at the weekend. Yes, carnival fever is with us again and we are about to be bombarded with images of jolly hordes dancing in the streets with policemen in their shirtsleeves.

Like Christmas, carnival is a festival that began as a small but legendary occurrence and has become something of a commercial and cultural jamboree. And, like Christmas, the Notting Hill carnival in London is an event which we are told — by our friends and by the media — we must get excited about.

Every year there is a different debate surrounding the bank holiday festivities. Is there going to be a riot? Should public bodies (such as the Arts Council and the local council) continue to fund the event? Is there going to be a riot? Is the event badly organised? Is there too heavy a police presence at carnival? Are there enough police officers at carnival? Is there going to be a riot?

Every year, pre-carnival publicity depends upon the whims of the moment. Scaremongering has been the common tactic in the carnival's 27-year history. In one year, the carnival organisers said that there was a National Front conspiracy to bomb west London during the festivities.

Until the late 1980s journalists — often crime correspondents — would cover the carnival without so much as a mention of a steel band. Last year the image of the notorious Notting Hill Carnival underwent something of a revolution. The event that we were once told was an annual convention for pot smoking, muggers and rioters, became an event that was fit for family consumption. It was acknowledged as Europe's largest outdoor arts festival. Six hundred thousand attended the first day of carnival in 1991 and there were 54 arrests. At the 1991 FA Cup Final attendance was 80,000 and there were 68 arrests.

From the prime minister

now acknowledges the carnival as an important arts event. "Notting Hill carnival," he says, "I thought it was just some sort of hyped up street party. I was surprised at what a massive event it actually is. I was under the impression that it was a sort of tense event but the atmosphere was incredible. Just for a couple of days a corner of London is a friendly and relaxed place where people are actually nice to each other."

To surmise that Londoners are transformed into friendly people for the weekend may be a little optimistic. Many of the revellers are tourists and British day-trippers from outside the capital. According to the Notting Hill Carnival Enterprise Committee Ltd (NCEL),

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Knight's dark moments

Out of the East comes a shining Knight of the road, which for Ray Clancy had the attributes of a real bike

The 20th century Knight left this maiden down. On the road to Winchester, it fizzed to a halt. No lights, no power, no life.

The Soviet Knight — it retains the oddly-outdated badge, even though it is made in Siberia — is a real motorcycle in the sense that it is not packed with fancy electronics. It splutters sometimes, especially when the 650cc engine is cold, and it is primitive.

To some, the Knight would be a burden, to others a delight. Riding it is like motorising back to the 1950s. It is the primal qualities that are attractive.

If you are used to the latest in Japanese technology, you may find it difficult to adjust to the Knight. It has no electric start and nothing could have prepared me for the leg power needed to kick it into life.

The manual choke levers on each carburetor also did not seem to have much effect. It was a matter of keeping the revs constant until the engine had warmed up sufficiently to tick over without conking out. I even phoned Naval Motorcycles, the importers, just to check that there was nothing wrong. "Well, it was OK when I left us," the man said.

The Knight is heavy and the handlebars are high and wide. It is a wonder why the makers bothered with the mirrors, as it was impossible to use them because of their position and the vibration from the engine.

On the motorway, with the throttle open, the speedo started its way upward. To 40mph, the machine ranted and then smoothed out. Cruising at 70mph was lovely.

For catchet and posh value, the Soviet Knight scores 11



Uneasy rider: blown fuses on the stylish Soviet Knight were a problem for Ray Clancy

out of ten. It draws as many stares as the more outlandish Harleys. At a stop for petrol, four-star rather than unladen, the cashier came out from behind his desk just to look. "Can I touch it?" he said.

The serious problems began after lunch. Outside the pub, a crowd gathered to look but I lost a lot of credibility points when it would not start. A couple of fuses had blown, so I had to trot over the road to

Halfords, thankful that I had broken down in a town.

The Knight uses ten-amp fuses, but the shop assistant said that they are not available in the UK. I picked out a packet of eight- and 16-amps, the nearest available. The eight amps just blew again. Flicked down, the larger ones worked: the engine started.

Now apprehensive, I headed out of town, but the fuses blew again. When I turned the

engine over it sparked, fizzed and went dead, because now the main 35-amp fuse to the battery had blown.

There was no Halfords, not even a garage in sight, so I hitched a lift into town. Wearily, and over an hour later, the dual fuse was replaced and I was back in business.

The engine, a copy of the BMW R80, is solid and reliable once warmed up, and a new or reconditioned BMW

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BBC1

6.00 Ceefax (47480) 6.30 Breakfast News (29226139)
 9.05 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles. Cartoon adventures (r) (6733022)
 10.00 News, regional news and weather (6324515) 10.05 Playdays (r) (s) (6109770) 10.25 Double Dare. Sporting game show (r) (s) (3948867) 10.45 The O-Zone. Pop magazine (s) (5855732)
 11.00 News, regional news and weather (1628428) 11.05 The Flying Doctors. Drama with the Australian medicals (r). (Ceefax) (s) (8213206) 11.50 National Trust Gardens. Blicking Hall, near Aylsham in Norfolk (r) (6665683)
 12.00 News, regional news and weather (7625138) 12.05 Summer Scene (5882409) 12.55 Regional News and weather (51284954)
 1.00 One O'Clock News. (Ceefax) Weather (86206)
 1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (43801480)
 1.50 Eldorado. Wednesday's episode (r). (Ceefax) (s) (61741751)
 2.20 Film: Deadly Encounter (1982). Lively action thriller starring Larry Hagman (JR in Dallas) as a veteran helicopter pilot who flies to the aid of an old flame. With Susan Anspach. Directed by William A. Graham (694645)
 3.55 Lifeline. Alan Titchmarsh appeals on behalf of the charity Telephones for the Blind (r) (s) (6938138) 4.05 Cartoon (3267393)
 4.10 Children's BBC: The All New Popsey Show. Cartoon adventures (r) (496138) 4.35 Maid Marian and Her Merry Men. Third of a six-part medieval comedy by Tony Robinson. (Ceefax) (6039480)
 5.00 Newsround (9807138) 5.05 Byker Grove. Children's drama series (r). (Ceefax) (5151461)
 5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (914312). Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster
 6.00 Six O'Clock News with Andrew Harvey and Moira Stuart. (Ceefax) Weather (113)
 6.30 Regional news magazines (799). Northern Ireland: Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s)



Charmer on the Costa: Mikael Philippe as Arnaud (7.00pm)

7.00 Eldorado. Arnaud (Mikael Philippe) and Trine (Marchal Bela) get together (r). (Ceefax) (s) (4157)
 7.30 Bread. Carla Lane's comedy series about the feuding Bowell family. Starring Jean Boht and Graham Bickley (r). (Ceefax) (s) (583)
 8.00 Birds of a Feather: Schooling. Sharon is taken for a ride. Starring Pauline Quirk and Linda Robson (r). (Ceefax) (s) (5967)
 8.30 Joker in the Pack. Members of the public share a laugh or three with Marti Caine. (Ceefax) (s) (2312)
 9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (9206)
 9.30 Virtual Murder: Dreams Imagic. Last episode of the offbeat drama series about a psychologist who moonlights as a detective. Starring Nicholas Clay and Kim Thomson. (Ceefax) (s) (37151)
 10.20 Proms on One. James Naughtie introduces tonight's concert, recorded at the Albert Hall in London. The BBC Concert Orchestra under Barry Wordsworth performs Gershwin's An American in Paris, Milhaud's *Boeuf sur le toit* and the world premiere of Richard Rodney Bennett's Concerto for Stan Getz, featuring John Hanle as soloist (s) (2628157)
 11.40 Film: Diary of a Madman (1963). Heavygoing horror film, based on a story by Guy de Maupassant. A murderer explains to a magistrate that he was possessed by an evil spirit. Starring Vincent Price and Nancy Kovack. Directed by Reginald Le Borg (257515)
 1.15am Weather (5248417)

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SATELLITE

SKY ONE

• Via the Astra and Marco Polo satellites
 6.00am Soap (70732) 6.30 Mrs. Pepperpot (5008428) 6.30 The Queen (4045428) 6.30 Neighbors (58751) 7.00 Dayline (86732) 7.30 Memories (58022) 11.30 Japan Business Today (5461774) 10.00 Let's Make a Deal (87521) 11.00 The Young and the Restless (63430) 11.20 The Young and the Restless (15732) 12.00 St Elsewhere (50732) 1.00 Home and Away (26848) 1.30 Geraldine (84041) 2.30 Another World (238577) 2.45 The Body Shop (5151461) 3.00 The Body Shop (5151461) 3.30 The Body Shop (5151461) 3.50 Last of the Strokes (1190) 6.00 Baby Talk (8003) 6.30 Home and Away (1461) 7.30 Casual Camera (8867) 8.00 The Flash (5151461) 8.30 The Flash (5151461) 8.50 The Flash (5151461) 10.00 St Elsewhere (63430) 10.30 Police Story (33935) 11.30 The Double Life of Henry Payne (64374) 12.00 Pages from Skytext

SKY NEWS

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 6.00am Soap (70732) 6.30 Mrs. Pepperpot (5008428) 6.30 Neighbors (58751) 7.00 Dayline (86732) 7.30 Memories (58022) 11.30 Japan Business Today (5461774) 10.00 Let's Make a Deal (87521) 11.00 The Young and the Restless (63430) 11.20 The Young and the Restless (15732) 12.00 St Elsewhere (50732) 1.00 Home and Away (26848) 1.30 Geraldine (84041) 2.30 Another World (238577) 2.45 The Body Shop (5151461) 3.00 The Body Shop (5151461) 3.30 The Body Shop (5151461) 3.50 Last of the Strokes (1190) 6.00 Baby Talk (8003) 6.30 Home and Away (1461) 7.30 Casual Camera (8867) 8.00 The Flash (5151461) 8.30 The Flash (5151461) 8.50 The Flash (5151461) 10.00 St Elsewhere (63430) 10.30 Police Story (33935) 11.30 The Double Life of Henry Payne (64374) 12.00 Pages from Skytext

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BBC2

6.45-7.10 Open University. Arts: A New Museum in South Kensington (5280461) 6.00 Breakfast News (3083848)
 8.15 Bitten By the Bug. How insects navigate (r) (3006799)
 8.30 Women of Our Century. The actress Rachel Kempson (r) (85916)
 9.00 Film: The Painted Desert (1938, b/w). Forgettable western starring George O'Brien in a battle for a tungsten mine in Arizona. With Laraine Johnson. Directed by David Howard (5053521)
 9.55 Film: The Stagecoach Kid (1949, b/w). Tim Holt rescues a rancher and his daughter from a crooked foreman in a minor RKO western. Directed by Lew Landers (4238916)
 10.55 Film: Dark Passage (1947, b/w). Terse and gripping thriller about an escaped convict, wrongly imprisoned for the murder of his wife, who is determined to find the real killer. Starring Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall. Directed by Delmer Daves (49416751)
 12.35 Look, Stranger (r) (1506041) 1.00 After Hours (6117939)
 1.20 Postman Pat. Cartoon for children (r) (s) (6390757)
 1.35 Weekend Outlook (r) (61915461) 2.10 In the Making. The work of jeweller Catherine Mannheim (r) (43890374)
 2.00 News and weather (69262954) followed by Look, Stranger. Steam engines in Dorset (r) (s) (58154593)
 2.25 Racing from Goodwood. The line-up is: 2.40 Schroder Investment Management Stakes Handicap; 2.10 Butins South coast World Prestige Stakes; 3.40 Horse Racing Abroad Stakes Handicap, including at 3.00 News and weather (6859206) 3.50 News and weather regional news and weather (6937409)
 4.00 Show Jumping from Hickstead, featuring the Silk Cut Derby Trial (s) (2106)
 6.00 Film: Lassie Come Home (1943). In the first and best of the Lassie series, the loyal collie is sold by her destitute family and embarks on a courageous journey home. Starring Roddy McDowall and Elizabeth Taylor. Directed by Fred M. Wilcox (46751)
 7.30 International Athlete: The No Van Damme memorial meeting in Brussels (97770) 9.00 Gardeners' World (7848)
 9.30 Signs of the Times: Big Ben and the Jesus Picture. Mothers and daughters talk about their other's living rooms (r) (239393)
 10.20 10 x 10: My Little Sweetie
CHOICE: Tonight's mini-drama comes from Poland and is based on the idea: unexceptional in itself but executed with invention and a neat sense of humour, of life as an assault course. As a solitary climber tackles a sheer and treacherous rock face, his progress is intercut with more everyday but no less testing challenges: falling in love, being a parent, religion, military service. The director is Miroslaw Dembinski, and *My Little Everest* was his second-year exercise while a student at the film school in Lodz. The piece has won prizes at eight international festivals devoted to films about mountaineering. The awards were doubtless deserved but they surely missed the point, for in *My Little Everest* the mountain climb is the metaphor and not the substance (441003)
 10.30 Newsnight with Peter Snow (428645) 11.15 What the Papers Say. Donald Woods reviews the week's press (629022)



Drugs, sex and rock'n'roll: Louise Rennison (11.30pm)

11.30 Edinburgh Nights: Stevie Wonder Felt My Face
CHOICE: Tonight's offering from the Edinburgh Festival is a comic monologue by Louise Rennison charting her teenage life in the swishing sixties. The show comes with two provisos. One is that to appreciate its finer points you need to know that *NME* is not a disease but a music paper. An instant recall of Led Zeppelin and its members will also do. The other is to warn that Rennison's material is often what is called adult, as she ranges uninhibited over sex, drugs and associated themes. That said, it is quite a performance. Rennison is an engagingly self-mocking artist who knows how to hold an audience and her material (written by herself and James Poutter) is sharp and perceptive. It is a portrait of a period and a generation which has the authentic ring of being composed by someone who was there (s) (76521)
 12.30am Weather 12.35 Film: House by the River (1950, b/w). Atmospheric melodrama starring Louis Hayward as a writer who accidentally kills his house and implicates his disabled brother. Directed by Fritz Lang (402015). Ends at 2.05

ITV

6.00 TV-am (8168698)
 9.25 Jumble. Frank Carson and Frank Bough are Jeff Stevenson's guests (s) (7733119) 9.55 Thames News (2785664)
 10.00 Adventures of the Galaxy Rangers. Cartoon (2799041)
 10.25 The Fantastic Adventures of Mr. Rossi. Animation (r) (2709428)
 10.55 ITN News headlines (3143577)
 11.00 Oz Tales. Cartoon double-bill (3159594)
 11.25 Just for the Record (r) (s) (1841935) 11.50 Thames News (9213770) 11.55 Cartoon (6640374)
 12.10 Rainbow. Early learning series (5977916)
 12.30 ITN Lunchtime News. (Orade) Weather (7553916) 1.05 Thames News (6392288)
 1.15 Home and Away. (Orade) (124751)
 1.45 A Country Practice. Australian medical drama (s) (123022)
 2.15 Highway to Heaven: Amazing Man. Michael Landon stars as the earthbound angel (s) (3725041) 3.10 ITN News headlines (4322041)
 3.15 Thames News (4321312)

3.20 The Young Doctors (6153393)

3.50 Children's TV: The Adventures of Teddy Ruxpin. Cartoon about a bear (r) (4204461) 4.15 Palace Hill. Last in the comedy-drama series about a comprehensive school (r) (s) (631729) 4.45 The Real Ghostbusters. Animated fun (r) (6021732)

5.10 Home and Away (r). (Orade) (4545428)

5.40 ITN Evening News with John Suchet. (Orade) Weather (66935) 5.55 LWT News (910956)

6.25 Saturday Night. Hollywood's stunt men and women in action (766554) 6.35 The Key (787916)

7.00 Family Fortunes. Comedian Les Dennis hosts the money game show. This week, the Gilbourns play the Morans (s) (9225)

7.30 Coronation Street. (Orade) (751)



Goshawk's return: the world's largest true hawk (8.00pm)

8.00 Survival Special: Goshawk — Phantom of the Forest

CHOICE: A century ago the goshawk, a splendid bird which is the world's largest true hawk, was driven to extinction in the British Isles by the fallings of woodlands and persecution by man. Now, encouraged by the sympathetic management of conifer forests, it is back. Conifer planting has had a bad press, being frequently criticised for destroying valuable wildlife habitat. Hugh Miles's film argues that if the planting is properly done, the effect can be just the opposite. He offers many examples of how forestry can promote rather than destroy the balance of nature but thanks to superb photography by the cameraman Michael Richards we keep coming back to the goshawk. Richards filmed the bird over two years, being prepared to wait as much as 107 hours for a single shot. Time and again his patience pays off. (Orade) (6461)

9.00 Film: Changes (1991). First showing on network television for this glossy romantic drama based on the best-selling novel by Danielle Steel. A Manhattan newscaster meets and falls in love with a Los Angeles surgeon. Starring Cheryl Ladd and Michael Nouri. Directed by Charles Jarrett. Continues after the news. (Orade) (6225)

10.00 News at Ten with Alastair Stewart and Julia Somerville. (Orade) Weather (388293) 10.35 LWT News (397885)

10.40 Changes. The concluding part. (Orade) (290799)

11.35 Hooked! Stuard Cosgrave considers how society will resolve drug addiction in the nineties (r) (674545)

12.05 Sledge Hammer. Spoof American police series (299542)

12.30 Married... With Children. American sitcom comedy (57542)

1.00 Rescue 911. William Shatner presents more real-life drama from the American emergency services (1085185)

2.00 American Gladiators. Contest of brains and brawn (s) (737572)

3.00 Cinema Attractions presented by Charlie Tuna (78137504)

3.25 Raw Power. The latest rock and heavy metal videos (s) (1536455)

4.35 Matchroom Snooker. Action from this year's Forte Hotels championship (9603097)

5.30 ITN Morning News (87271). Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Channel Four Daily (4463080)
 9.25 Radar Men From the Moon (b/w). Vintage science-fiction series (721935) 9.40 Foothie. Cartoon about a stray dog (2333645)
 9.55 Get Smart: The Laser Blazer. Spoof espionage series (3868157)
 10.25 Hell's Kitchen: The Damned (1935, b/w). Grim melodrama starring Conrad Veidt as the leader of a prison revolt in a Caribbean penal colony. With Noah Beery and Cecil Ramage. Directed by Walter Forde (710593)
 11.45 Fuddy Duddy Buddy. Cartoon fun (6018080)
 12.00 The Prodigal Hickey. A pupil at a boys' school in the early 1900s is determined to hoodwink authority (r) (459856)
 1.00 Sesame Street. The guest is the actor Robin Williams (r) (21206) 2.00 I Love Lucy: LA at Last (b/w). Cult American comedy show starring Lucille Ball (67157)
 2.30 Channel 4 Racing from Newmarket. Introduced by John Oakes. The line-up is: 2.35 Shaftesbury Handicap; 3.05 Port of Tilbury Maiden Stakes; 3.35 Hopeful Stakes; 4.10 Brechin Handicap (47848)
 4.30 Countdown. Words and numbers game (s) (664)
 5.00 Traveller's Tales. The author Nigel Farwell explores Lake Malawi in Africa (r). (Teletext) (6138)
 6.00 Blossom: To Tell the Truth. American comedy series about a teenage girl living in a male household (s) (157)
 6.30 Happy Days: Ah! Wilderness. Nostalgic American comedy series. Richie's (Ron Howard) camping trip is spoilt (r). (Teletext) (409)
 7.00 Channel 4 News with Jon Snow. Weather (520770)
 7.50 First Reaction. An opinion on the arts (s) (752515)
 8.00 Brookside. Mersyday soap. (Teletext) (s) (6515)
 8.30 In with Marvin. Mark Nicholson talks to Mary Westley, author of *The Camomile Lawn*, which was recently dramatised on Channel 4 (r). (Teletext) (5022)
 9.00 Garden Club. The series that explores gardens and allotments around Britain returns with a visit to Aberdeen. Presented by Rebecca Pow, Roy Lancaster, Matthew Biggs and Linda Gummer. (Teletext) (2916)
 9.30 Cheers: No Help Wanted. Ted